

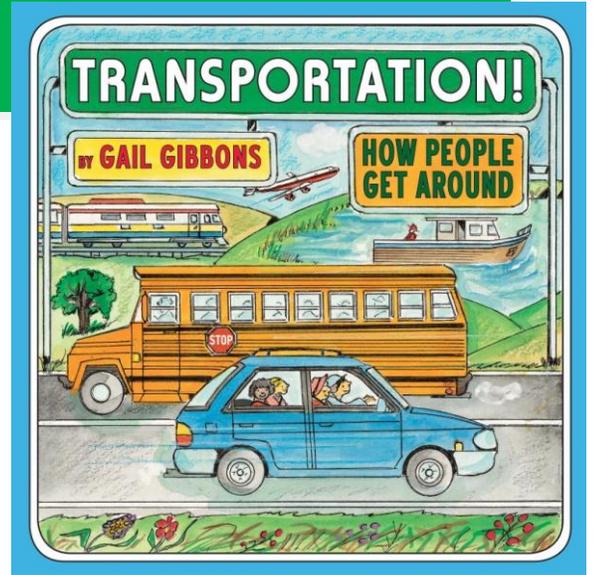
LESSON PLAN

STEM

Transportation! How People Get Around

Gail Gibbons

People all around the world have developed diverse means and methods of transportation. Learn about the many choices we have and how people get around.



9780823434251 • Ages 4–8 • E-book available

Objectives: Read text with purpose and understanding, determine the main idea and details, and describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in the text. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.

Guided Reading Level: M

Grade Level: 2

Interest Level: K–3

Instructional Standards

Reading Informational Text: RI.K-3.1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8

Reading Foundation Skills: RF.K-3.3,4

Writing: W.K-3.1,2,3,7,8,10

Speaking and Listening: SL.K-3.1,2,3,4,5,6

Language: L.K-3.1,2,3,4,5,6

BEFORE READING

1. Look at the front and back cover illustrations and front title. What do you think this book is going to be about?
2. What is transportation?
3. How do you use transportation?
4. What do you know about transportation? Create a chart.
5. What kinds of transportation do you use? Why?

Identify the author/illustrator.

1. Ask the students if they have read other books by Gail Gibbons. What types of books does she write? Nonfiction.
2. What kind of nonfiction does Gail Gibbons write? She explains and gives information about a topic. This is called “expository nonfiction.” Show examples of other Gail Gibbons titles.
3. Have students summarize familiar titles.

Identify and discuss how text features are used in nonfiction books.

- Table of contents
- Afterword
- Foreword
- Illustrations



- Photographs
- Captions
- Labels
- Italics
- Diagrams
- Maps, charts
- Pronunciation Guide
- Headings
- Glossary
- Index
- Further Reading
- About the Author
- Time-line
- Bold/colored print

Take a picture walk and look for “text features” in *Transportation!*

Why do authors use “text features” in nonfiction books? (It helps us find information and explain ideas and concepts.)

DURING READING

First read/shared reading: Teacher reads the main text aloud as students follow along.

Second reading: Students read independently.

1. As you read, notice how Gail Gibbons structures the book.
2. Read/listen to find out what different types of transportation people use and why.
3. Use text features to find information.
4. Identify facts about different types of transportation.
5. Take notes on each form of transportation.
6. Compare and contrast the physical characteristics and functions of cars, boats, aircraft, and trains.
7. Write down challenging words. Use strategies for unknown words. (pictures and context clues)
8. Look for words that have similar meanings. (synonyms)
9. Look for compound words. Use knowledge of the meaning of individual words to predict the meaning of compound words.

AFTER READING

Find evidence from the book to support each statement.

- We use different modes of transportation depending on what we’re moving, how far it needs to go, and how fast it needs to get there.
- Vehicles are a common mode of transportation. Some examples of vehicles include trucks, trains, planes, carts, and boats.
- Vehicles can be different sizes and colors and serve different purposes.
- Some vehicles have engines and use motors to move and some vehicles are moved by people.
- Vehicles move across different settings.
- Our community uses various modes of transportation to meet our needs: food, clothing, and emergencies.

Write an explanatory text telling what all modes of transportation have in common. Compare and contrast two modes of transportation in how they are similar and different.



Write your opinion: choose a mode of transportation mentioned in the book that you would like to ride or that is your favorite vehicle. Explain why.

Write a narrative account about you traveling in one of the vehicles in the book. Draw a picture of your adventure.

Write a persuasive essay telling someone why they should buy one of the vehicles. Create an audio recording or video.

STEM Group Projects

How do things move?

1. Plan, design, and build a vehicle.
2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of different transportation systems?
3. Research innovations in transportation in the United States and in another country. Compare and contrast.
4. How can engineering and modern materials improve transportation?
5. Create a new mode of transportation of the future.
6. Investigate how individual decisions about transportation affect society and the world.

Guide written by Marla Conn, reading/literacy specialist and educational consultant

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