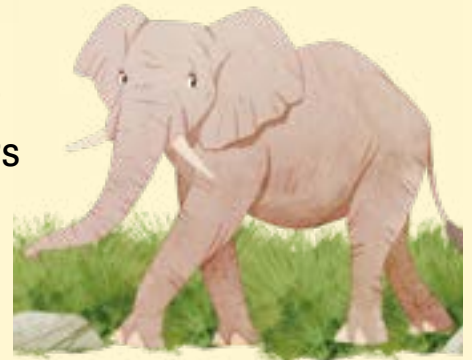


Spider's Tug of War



This **lesson plan** is centred around *Spider's Tug of War* from the Starter Level of the Usborne English Readers series. It is suitable for students on low level A1 of the CEFR framework.



BEFORE READING

- Show your students the cover of the book whilst covering the title with your hand. Point to things in the picture (the vine between the two monkeys, the spider, the crown). Ask questions, for example: *What game are the monkeys playing? Why is the spider wearing a crown? Where do you think the story is set?*
- Once you have revealed the title, ask the children if they know the story. Have they heard of Anansi before?
- Introduce them to the important words in the story:
 - **Spider** (n) a very small animal with eight legs.
 - **Jungle** (n) a lot of trees together in a hot place. Jungles are very green and it often rains. Many birds and animals live there.
 - **Tug of war** (n) a game where two or more people pull the two ends of a rope. When one person or group shows that they are stronger than the other, they win.
 - **Win** (v) when you win a game or a race, you are first or you do best.



DURING READING

- Read the story or play the recording (using the QR code at the beginning of the book) of pages 3-5 to your students. After you have finished, ask them some questions about the extract you have just read, such as 'What kind of animals live in the jungle?', 'Why is Anansi special?' and 'What does Elephant say to make Anansi angry?'.
- If your students don't have their own copies of the book, do pause to show them the illustrations as you read, or show them while the audio is playing.
- Repeat this process after every few pages of the book to test your students' comprehension of the story, and encourage them to make a note of new vocabulary.

AFTER READING

- Hold up the book and show your students pages 10 and 11. Point to things in the picture and ask your students to name the things you are pointing to, encouraging everyone in the class to participate.
- Afterwards, put your students into pairs and ask them to complete the activities at the back of the book ([page 17-21](#)) or you can ask them to complete the tasks as homework. You can download [black and white](#) or [colour](#) copies of these activities from our website.