



I WAS THE FIRST – AUTHOR’S PURPOSE

Learning Objective: The students will...

1. Identify and state the author’s purpose.

TEKS: 1.13A, 2.13A, 3.12A, 4.10A, 5.10A

Materials Needed: 6 I Was The First books, sticky notes and pencils, white board or chart paper

Vocabulary: author’s purpose, inform, biography, persuade, entertain

Teaching Strategy:

1. During guided reading, meet with small groups.
2. Ask students why authors write and chart responses.
3. Remind students that three of the main reasons that authors write are to persuade, inform or to entertain the reader.
4. Discuss the words inform, persuade and entertain.
5. Read one page of I Was The First with the group.
6. Discuss why the author wrote about the chosen historical figure. On chart paper craft a statement together about author’s purpose.
7. Have students read another page with a partner and craft a statement about author’s purpose on a sticky note.
8. Then have students read a third page of the book independently and write their own statement about author’s purpose on a sticky note.
9. Students can share their statements about author’s purpose at the end of guided reading time with a partner or small group.

Extension for GT/AP:

Students will read about three historical figures in the book and write a short paragraph persuading the reader to vote for one of them. This is a different author’s purpose than the original text.