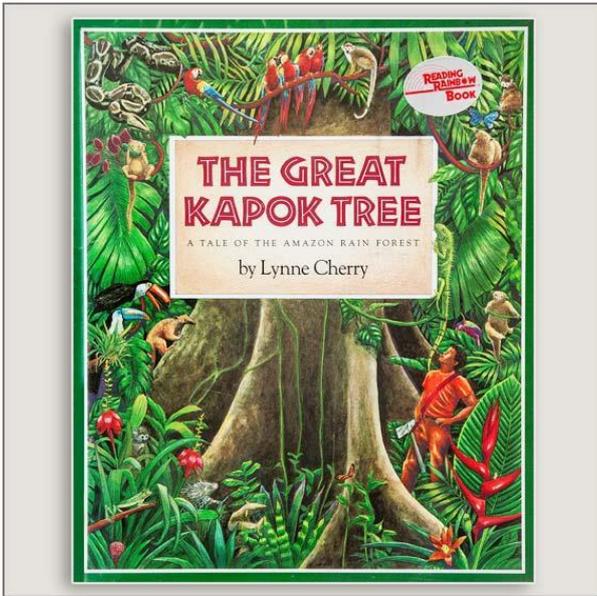


Wednesday Literacy



here is an extract from a book called The Great Kapok Tree. It describes an event which takes place in a rainforest. Could you turn it into a newspaper report? Could you pretend you are a reporter hearing the story for the first time and then go away and write it up with the features of a news report, there is even a quote for you to use! If possible type it up as on Friday you can edit it and present it very professionally in the frame I am sending.

The Great Kapok Tree

Two men walked into the rain forest. Moments before, the forest had been alive with the sounds of squawking birds and howling monkeys. Now all was quiet as the creatures watched the two men and wondered why they had come.

The larger man stopped and pointed to a great Kapok tree. Then he left.

The smaller man took the axe he carried and struck the trunk of the tree. Whack! Whack! Whack! The sounds of the blows ran through the forest. The wood of the tree was very hard. Chop! Chop! Chop!

Soon the man grew tired. He sat down to rest at the foot of the tree. Before he knew it, the heat and hum of the forest had lulled him to sleep.

A boa constrictor lived in the kapok tree. He slithered down its trunk to where the man was sleeping. He looked at the gash the axe had made in the tree. Then the huge snake slid very close to the man and hissed in his ear, "Senhor, this tree is a tree of miracles. It is my home, where generations of my ancestors have lived. Do not chop it down."

This sets the scene well but would be made even better by an ending of your choice. Does the man now save the tree or does he finish chopping it down and the local people are in uproar?

Now use the frame to plan your article