*Sweet Potato Pie*

Book Study for *Sweet Potato Pie* (Step-Into-Reading, Step 1), by Anne Rockwell, 1996, Random House Books for Young Readers.

Read the book to the class – enjoy the book, noticing the pictures, discovering the pattern to the story, and discussing any unfamiliar words.

Students then read and/or look at the books in small groups.

Whole-class discussions:

Who are the characters in the book? (Pa, Grandma, Gramps, Ma, Tom, Sis, Bob)

What is the setting for the story?

List verbs from the story. Do actions for the verbs.

Vocabulary and skills words to look at: by, eat, sing, stop, them (ea, y, -ing, st, th)

Find the pattern in the story – where does it differ?

Meet the author of the book.

Assignment: What is a favorite food of your family? Do an interview to find a favorite food of your family. Bring the info to school.

1. Collate this information into a graph
2. Write about your family’s favorite food. (Use the template.)

Do the book as a song/chant: Divide the class into three groups, giving each group the responsibility of taking one part of the presentation. One group will read the story line; one group reads “Why, oh, why? Sweet potato pie!” and the other group adds the rhythm to “Why, oh why? Sweet potato pie!” with their hands (tapping, clapping) or small instruments (bells, clackers; my students made rhythm sticks with pencils). We did this three times so each group was able to do each of the three parts. They had some time to practice their parts, then we put it together and did the story with the parts.

Bake sweet potato pies! I cooked the sweet potatoes at home and the children mashed them at school and mixed up the filling. We baked the pies, and then acted out the story with the pies – Grandma called, “Come and get my sweet potato pies!” and everyone comes running for pie. We enjoyed eating our pies. ☺

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A favorite food of my family is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Draw a picture to go with your sentence.