

## The Lonely Penguin's Blog

### READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Blogging, Environmentalism, Habitats, Survival

**Book Brief:** Building off of the popularity of social media, the story of Palaki the penguin's blog posts relates to the reader. Unfortunately, Palaki swims off in the wrong direction and ends up in a climate that is far too warm for an emperor penguin.

**Author:**  
Alan Trussell-Cullen

**Illustrator:**  
Sophie Kittredge



### BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Read the title. Ask, “Why do you think the penguin in this story may be lonely?” (Optional: Pair Share)

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

**The Pictures:** Flip through some of the pictures. What do you notice about the way this book is written? Point out that each page starts with a date and a title.

**Purpose for Reading:** “As we read, think about why the author chose to tell the story as a blog.”

**Prior Knowledge:** Have you ever read a blog before? Search online for a child-friendly blog to build students’ background knowledge.

### DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- Where is Palaki’s home?
- What makes Palaki think he is lost?
- Where did Palaki end up? Why do you think that happened?
- What happens when Palaki swallows the sand?
- Why do you think the humans put a transmitter on Palaki?
- How do you think Palaki feels about going home? What makes you think that?

### AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** Who was telling the story? Why do you think the penguin chose to write a blog?

**Extending Our Thinking:** This book was a fictional story that included facts about emperor penguins such as their habitat. Individually or in pairs, select an animal to research. After researching facts about the animal (behaviors, habitat, etc.), write a blog through the point of view of the animal.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more by reading other books about penguins such as [Pierre the Penguin: A True Story](#) and [The Emperor's Egg](#).