

Fiction

# Amira's Petting Zoo

by Anita Rodriguez

illustrated by  
K.E. Lewis



Mc  
Graw  
Hill

PAIRED  
READ

Poetry

## STRATEGIES & SKILLS

### Comprehension

**Strategy:** Reread

**Skill:** Key Details

### Vocabulary

behave, express,  
feathers, flapping

### Phonics

Three-letter blends: *scr, spr,*  
*str, thr, spl, shr*

### Vocabulary Strategy

Multiple-Meaning Words

Word count: 344

CCSS

Genre Fiction



Essential Question

What do we love about animals?

# Amira's Petting Zoo



by Anita Rodriguez  
illustrated by K.E. Lewis

**PAIRED  
READ**

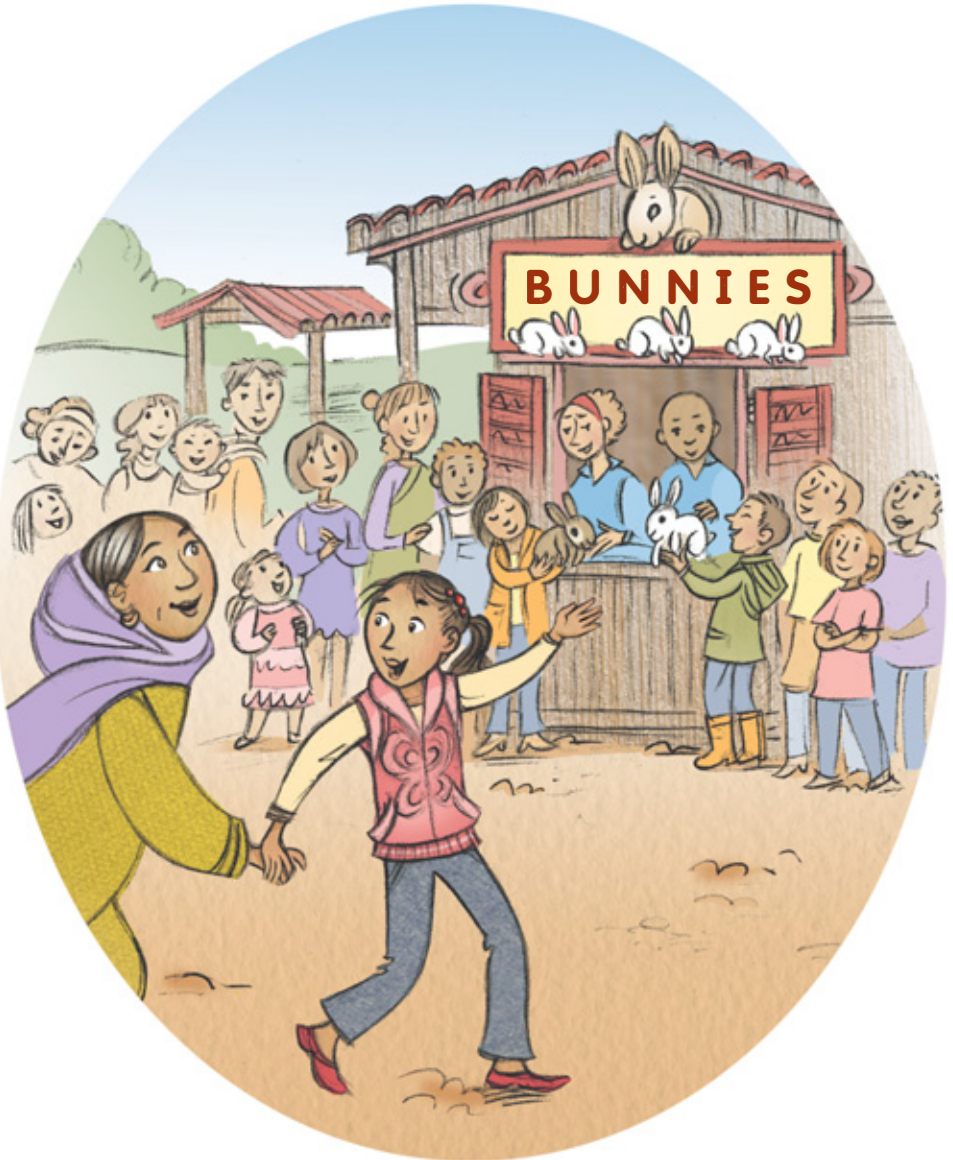
Sheep Season . . . . . 17

Amira was at the zoo. "It's crowded," she said. "How will I pet the animals?"

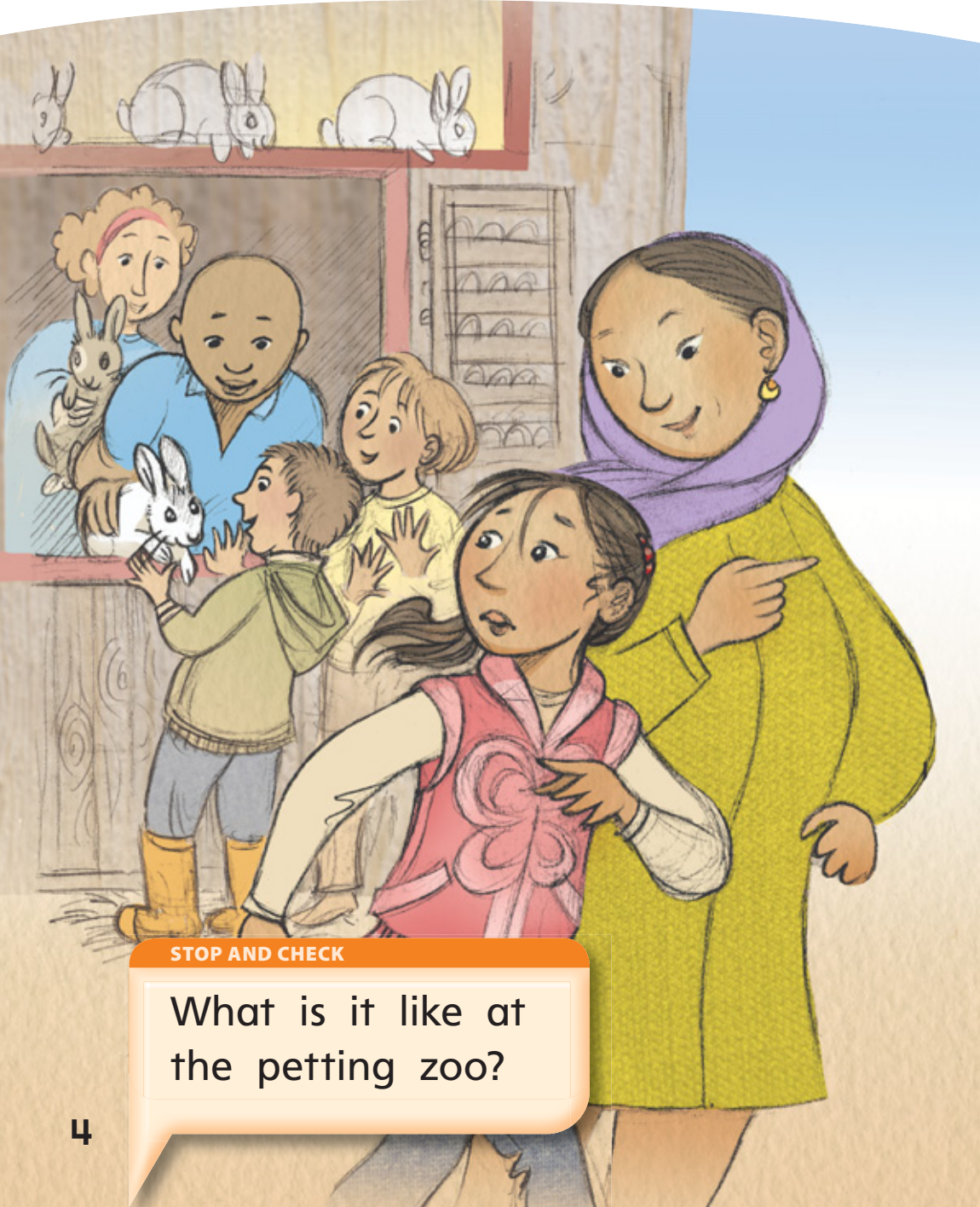
"Don't worry," said Grandma. But Amira did.



“I want to pet the bunnies,”  
Amira cried. But the line  
was long.



“Don’t worry,” said Grandma.  
But Amira did.



**STOP AND CHECK**

What is it like at  
the petting zoo?

Amira pointed. "Piglets!" she said. "I want to pet them."

"I'm sorry," said a worker. "This pen's closed."



"I'll never pet an animal,"  
Amira moaned.

"Let's look at ducks,"  
Grandma said.





A duck was flapping his wings. His feathers splashed drops on Amira.



“I want to pet something,”  
Amira groaned. “Instead, that  
duck splashed me!”



**STOP AND CHECK**

Why couldn't Amira  
pet the piglets?

“Look,” said Grandma. A stand held bags of animal food.

“Here,” said another worker. Amira smiled to express her thanks.



Amira took a bag. But there were so many people, she couldn't see any animals!



“How can I feed any animals?” she asked. “I can’t even pet one!”

“Don’t worry,” said Grandma. But Amira did.



**STOP AND CHECK**

What happened  
at the stand?

Amira and Grandma kept walking. It was so crowded!  
Then they had to stop at a fence.



Suddenly, a baby goat pressed its nose against Amira's hand. Amira jumped.



"He's so cute!" Amira cried.  
She scratched his head.

"He wants food," said  
Grandma. The goat bleated.

"Behave yourself," Amira said.  
She spilled food into her  
hand.





The goat's tongue tickled.

"He loves it!" she exclaimed.

"And I love the petting zoo!"

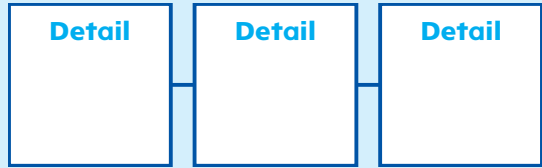
"I told you not to worry,"  
smiled Grandma. And Amira  
didn't.



# Respond to Reading

## Summarize

Use the chart to summarize the story.



## Text Evidence

1. Is *Amira's Petting Zoo* fiction or nonfiction? Explain. **Genre**
2. List two key details about the petting zoo. **Key Details**
3. What does *pet* mean on page 11? **Multiple-Meaning Words**
4. Write about why Amira was worried. **Write About Reading**

## Compare Texts

Read a poem about more lovable animals.

# Sheep Season

Six frisky sheep  
Played all day in the sun.  
Now they're all asleep.  
They had TOO much fun!



The farmer says, "Friend!  
To your wool I will tend!  
Let me cut your coat  
Before this summer ends."

Farmer shears the fleece.  
The clippers buzz like bees.  
Off comes thick white wool,  
All in one big piece.





Now the sheep are shorn,  
From tiny tail to horn,  
Looking just like they did  
On the day they were born.

Up the hill they climb,  
Their coats clean this time.  
No longer are they covered  
In dust and dirt and grime.



### Make Connections

What does Amira love about the goat? **Essential Question**

How are the sheep in the poem like the animals in *Amira's Petting Zoo*?

**Text to Text**

# Focus on Literary Elements

**Rhythm** Rhythm is a pattern of stressed and unstressed beats. Stressed beats have more force. Unstressed beats have less force.

**What to Look for** Listen for stressed beats. In this poem, stressed beats are in **bold** letters.

Farmer **shears** the **fleece**.  
The **clippers** **buzz** like **bees**.

## Your Turn

Write a short (2-line) poem. Say your poem out loud. Find the stressed beats. Underline them.

# Thinkmark

## Characters

How would you describe Amira?

## Sequence of Events

What happened **first**, **then**, **next**, and **finally** in *Amira's Petting Zoo*?

## Setting

Where did this story take place?