TEXT COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS OF
The Lizard and the Sun

by Alma Flor Ada

Text Type: Literary

TEXT DESCRIPTION	PLACEMENT
This picture book tells the story of a dark and fearful time in Mexico, long ago, when the sun disappeared. When all other animals give up their search for the missing sun, a brave lizard carries on in her effort to find and return the light and warmth of the sun.	Introduced as a read aloud with support, this text falls in the 2-3 grade band.

QUANTITATIVE MEASURE

QUANTITATIVE MEASURE OF THE TEXT: AD580L
ASSOCIATED BAND LEVEL: 2-3

QUALITATIVE MEASURES

MEANING/PURPOSE: Moderately Complex
The text contains multiple levels of meaning that are fairly easy to infer. The central message of the story is clear but is conveyed with some subtlety.

TEXT STRUCTURE: Moderately Complex
The storyline Is clear and easy to predict, but contains some time shifts. Illustrations and graphics support understanding of the text. This is a dual language text. The same text is written in both Spanish and English, arranged on facing pages and sharing the same illustrations.

LANGUAGE FEATURES: Moderately Complex
The language is generally easy to understand with some occasions for more complex meaning. The text uses figurative language and personification. The sentence structure consists primarily of simple and compound sentences. The text is translated into both Spanish and English.

KNOWLEDGE DEMANDS: Moderately Complex
Contains references to some cultural elements that may be unfamiliar to students.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR READER AND TASK

The Lizard and the Sun is read aloud to students with modeling and support from the teacher to establish a predictable routine for the series of fables and folktales read in this unit. Students engage in the Role Play protocol, recount the story using key details, determine its central message, and finally write a paragraph about the central message.

Specific supports for English Language Learners, students with special needs, and students who need enrichment are included in the module.

RATIONALE

This text is one of several folktales and fables explored by students in which pollinators are the central characters. Using this text, students ask and answer questions to understand key details in the text (RL.2.1). They role play and recount the story using key details. They determine the central message of the story based on the how the characters respond to a problem or challenge (RL.2.2, RL.2.3, RL.2.6). Students also work together to consider that habits of character that help the fictional characters in the story contribute to a better world.

2M4.1 #11