



Title: Ox-Cart Man

Author: Donald Hall

Illustrator: Barbara Cooney

Age Range: 7-9

Topics/Themes: Early nineteenth century life

See Book Read Aloud Here: [Ox-Cart Man](#)

I. INTRODUCTION (PREP QUESTIONS)

- a. Model a think-aloud strategy with the students: “Do you think this story takes place in the present day or the past? How do you know?”

II. INTEGRATIVE STRATEGIES

a. Post Reading:

- Explain to students that this book won an award. See below:



The Caldecott Medal was named in honor of nineteenth-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

- P.16 Why do you think the man is selling everything?
- P.19 What do you think the man is going to do with the materials he got for his family?
- Since the family did not have any money, what did they do to get the materials they needed? - Traded or bartered
- Why was it important for each family member to have a certain job? Why did each of their jobs change with the seasons?
- If you lived during this time, what would you do to contribute to the family?
- What do you think was the author’s message to the reader? What did he want us to think about?
- This story takes place in the 1800’s. What was different during this time than today? What was the same?
- Would you have wanted to live during this time? Why or why not?
- What do you think the Ox-Cart Man will do next year?
- This story is actually a poem. Point out to students how the sentences are broken off and don’t run as one continual line. Look for examples of repetition throughout the story.