

LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series — Grammar Fluency

picturebookenglish.com

Category	Fluency in Key Grammar	Title	Grammar Book 13 – To Go or Not to Go!: To-Infinitive
Ages	6–9	Theme	To-Infinitive — Purpose, Feeling, Intention, Adjective + Verbs + Infinitive

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

In this book, children follow a young boy's emotional journey moving from Costa Rica to Canada as a Third Culture Kid. Reflecting on what he did to fit in and what he plans to do in his new home, he uses the to-infinitive naturally in four different ways: to express purpose ('I studied to learn'), to describe feelings ('It is hard to say goodbye'), to state future intentions ('I plan to make new friends'), and as an adjective describing a noun ('It's time to go').

Building directly on the gerunds in Book 12, this book shows children the companion structure — and begins the important work of helping them know when to use each one. The Third Culture Kid theme adds deep emotional resonance, making this one of the most personally meaningful books in the series.

FOUR FUNCTIONS OF THE TO-INFINITIVE

Function	Meaning	Structure	Example
Purpose	Why did you do it?	to + verb	<i>He ran to catch the bus.</i>
Feeling / Adjective	How does it feel?	It is [adj] + to + verb	<i>It is hard to say goodbye.</i>
Intention / Plan	What will you do?	verb of planning + to + verb	<i>I plan to make new friends.</i>
Adjective for noun	What kind of ___?	"It's time to..." / noun + to + verb	<i>It's time to get up.</i>

COMMON VERBS FOLLOWED BY THE TO-INFINITIVE

Desires & Hopes	Plans & Decisions	Needs & Efforts
want, would like, hope, wish, love, like	decide, plan, choose, agree, promise	need, try, learn, forget, help
<i>"I want to eat an apple." / "I hope to see you soon."</i>	<i>"We decided to move." / "I promise to be brave."</i>	<i>"You need to brush your teeth." / "Try to finish your homework."</i>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will be able to:

- Form the to-infinitive correctly — to + base verb
- Use the to-infinitive for purpose — 'He ran to catch the bus'

- Use the to-infinitive after adjectives — 'It is exciting to see snow'
- Use the to-infinitive after verbs of planning, desire, and need
- Use 'It's time to...' as a daily routine structure
- Compare gerunds and to-infinitives and understand when each is used

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. Introduce and compare gerund vs to-infinitive

Connect to Book 12 — children already know the gerund (reading, going, playing). Now introduce the to-infinitive partner. Practise both forms side by side: 'read → reading / to read', 'go → going / to go', 'play → playing / to play'. Ask your child to make one sentence with each form: 'Reading is fun' vs 'I love to read.' This comparison builds the mental framework children need to use both structures correctly.

2. Play the Why game

Use the infinitive of purpose to explain actions from the story and from real life. Ask 'Why?' questions about your child's day: 'Why did you go to the kitchen?' → 'To get a snack.' 'Why did you open your bag?' → 'To find my pencil.' Encourage them to always start their answer with 'To...' This game builds automatic use of the purpose infinitive — one of the most natural and frequent patterns in everyday English.

3. Practise Feeling + To-Infinitive

Ask your child how they feel about different activities using the pattern 'It is [feeling] to [verb].' For example: 'It is exciting to move to a new country' or 'It is hard to say goodbye' or 'It is fun to make new friends.' Connect each sentence to the boy's experience in the book. This builds emotional literacy alongside grammar confidence.

4. Go on a Pre-Reading Marking Hunt

Before reading the story together, flip through the pages and mark every 'to + verb' your child can find. Then as you read, pause at each marked infinitive and ask: 'Which of the four functions fits here — purpose, feeling, intention, or adjective?' For example: 'He ran to catch the bus' — is 'to catch' a feeling or a reason? This active reading strategy builds grammar awareness that transfers to all future reading.

5. Practise It's Time To with a daily schedule

Go through the daily schedule together and practise saying each sentence at the actual moment it happens during the day: 'It's time to get up!' at 7am, 'It's time to have breakfast!' at 8am, and so on. This turns the to-infinitive as adjective into a living, functional habit rather than a grammar rule to memorise.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Ask your child to write a short letter from the boy in the story to his best friend back in Costa Rica — using as many to-infinitive functions as possible. For example: 'I moved to Canada to start a new adventure. It is exciting to see snow for the first time! I plan to make new friends. It is hard to forget you. But I promise to write every week.' This creative writing activity consolidates all four functions in a single, emotionally meaningful piece of writing.

Try the fun online learning activities for this book on our website!

[Click here to try the online learning activities](#)

TEACHER'S NOTES AND TIPS

The to-infinitive and the gerund are the two great -ing/to structures of English, and children who master both — and know when to use each — have achieved a significant fluency milestone. The most practical teaching point is that many verbs of emotion (like, love, hate) can take either form with little difference in meaning, while others require one form or the other (enjoy + gerund only; want + infinitive only). The Four-Meaning Challenge in this book is an excellent analytical tool — asking children to identify which function a to-infinitive is performing builds metalinguistic awareness that accelerates grammar learning across all future structures. The Third Culture Kid theme is particularly resonant for ESL learners, many of whom share similar experiences of navigating between cultures and languages.