

# LESSON PLAN GUIDE

PictureBook English Reading Series — Grammar Fluency

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<b>Category</b>	Fluency in Key Grammar	<b>Title</b>	Grammar Book 5 – What Are You Doing, Froggy?: Present Continuous
<b>Ages</b>	6–9	<b>Theme</b>	Present Continuous Tense + -ing Forms + TPR Sing-Along

## INTRODUCTION OF THE BOOK

After mastering the simple present tense in Books 1 to 4, children now step into the present continuous — the tense we use to describe what is happening right now. Through a lively sing-along to the tune of London Bridge, children join Froggy and a cast of fun animal characters to discover the -ing suffix and the 'be + verb-ing' structure in the most memorable way possible: through music and movement.

The key distinction children need to grasp is the 'Right Now' rule: while the simple present describes habits and routines, the present continuous describes what is happening at this very moment. 'Dolphy is jumping up!' — you can see it happening as you read!

## PRESENT CONTINUOUS — -ING SPELLING RULES

Rule	Base verb	Present continuous (-ing)
Most verbs → add -ing	eat, talk, jump, go	eating, talking, jumping, going
Verbs ending in -e → drop e, add -ing	ride, dance, make	riding, dancing, making
Short verbs ending in consonant-vowel-consonant → double final consonant	run, swim, sit, hop	running, swimming, sitting, hopping

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

*Children will be able to:*

- Form the present continuous correctly — subject + is/am/are + verb-ing
- Apply the three -ing spelling rules — add -ing, drop e + ing, double consonant + ing
- Understand the 'Right Now' rule — present continuous describes actions happening at this moment
- Sing the book's sentences to the London Bridge melody with expression and movement
- Distinguish between simple present (habits) and present continuous (right now)

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### 1. Sing it and Swing it with TPR

Use the London Bridge melody to sing the sentences in the book. Music helps the brain lock in grammar structures far more effectively than repetition alone. For an extra boost, add Total Physical Response — when Dolphy is jumping up, your child jumps up too! When another animal is sleeping, they pretend to sleep. Linking physical movement to the -ing suffix makes the lesson truly unforgettable.

## 2. Master the Right Now rule

Explain the key rule clearly: 'We use -ing words for things that are happening right now — at this very moment!' Then play a quick verb transformation game. Say a common action verb — 'Eat!' — and ask your child to change it to the -ing form: 'Eating!' Go through a dozen common verbs: go/going, talk/talking, run/running, sit/sitting, dance/dancing. Use the spelling rules table above to check each one.

## 3. Act out and speak present continuous

Act out actions one at a time — eating, sleeping, running, brushing teeth, jumping, reading — without saying a word. Ask your child to describe what you are doing using a full present continuous sentence: 'She is eating!' or 'You are brushing your teeth!' Then swap roles — your child acts and you describe. This TPR activity makes the structure feel natural and active rather than abstract.

## 4. Call and respond with animal sentences

Work through the book together using a call-and-response format. You say each animal's name — 'Dolphy!' — and your child finishes the sentence: 'is jumping up!' Go through all the animals in the book this way. This rhythm-based practice builds automatic recall of both the animal names and their continuous actions, and prepares children to retell the whole story independently.

## FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Play a Right Now Spy game. Look out of the window or around the room and take turns describing what people, animals, or things are doing at that exact moment — using full present continuous sentences. For example: 'A bird is sitting on the fence.' or 'Dad is reading the newspaper.' or 'The cat is sleeping on the sofa.' See who can make the longest chain of Right Now sentences without repeating an action. This game shows children that the present continuous is not just a grammar rule — it is the language we use to describe the living, moving world around us every day.

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

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## TEACHER'S NOTES AND TIPS

The present continuous is one of the most intuitive tenses in English for young learners because it describes visible, immediate action — children can literally see what they are describing. The combination of singing, physical movement, and animal characters makes this book one of the most kinaesthetic and memorable in the series. The most important conceptual hurdle is distinguishing simple present from present continuous — 'I eat breakfast every day' vs 'I am eating breakfast right now.' Using contrast examples in real moments (point to someone eating: 'She is eating right now — is eating, not eats') is the most effective way to make this distinction stick. The -ing spelling rules, particularly the doubling rule for short CVC verbs, are worth spending extra time on as they cause persistent spelling errors even in older learners.