Title: **Almost** Level: **H** ISBN: 0-673-61318-6 Publisher: Scott Foresman

Familiar Read: (3 min.)

Familiar Writing: (3 min.) Word Building (3 min.)

1. thanks

2. swing quit – quite – quiet

3. splash look – took – hook – shook

Before Reading: (5-7 min.)

* Book Introduction: (include meaning, structure, visual)

This is a **fiction** story about 2 boys who are friends.

The story begins as one boy tries many things, but the other one is afraid to try.

*Have you (or someone you know) ever felt a little scared to try something new? What did you do?*

*How does the boy on the front cover look?* (afraid) *How can you tell?*

In this story, the boy who is scared starts to try things… but then stops just before doing them. He *almost* does it, he is close but *not quite.* The story ending will help give ideas on how to help a friend.

* Difficult Words/Vocabulary:

sound out & discuss meanings**—quite** (p.3), **splash** (5), **cried** (11); **swing, seesaw** (13)

* Suggested Teaching Point: (refer to Behaviors to Notice and Support)

Good readers think about the story they are reading and how it ***connects*** to their lives.

During Reading: (5-10 min.) \*Revisit the teaching point as needed.

Students whisper read. Occasionally stop and briefly ask students if they have tried some activities mentioned in the book. *How did they feel? Was it easy or hard?*

Prompts to Support readers: *Does it match? Does it sound right? Does it make sense*?

After Reading: (5-7 min.)

* Discuss the story

*Which activity in the story would be the hardest to try?*

*How did Ned feel when he didn’t get an apple?*

*How did he feel when his friend shared?*

*When have you helped a friend?*

*What did you help them to do?*

* Return to Teaching Point:

*How did it help you understand the story better if you did some of the things that Ned’s character did?* (reader can sympathize with character feeling afraid; know that friends help each other)

* Comprehension Strategy Focus: **connections**, questions, inferences, visualizing, summarizing, synthesizing, determining importance

Writing Connection: (5 min.)

I will help a friend by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.