Title: **Towering Giraffes**  Level: L ISBN: 978-0-7608-9349-4 Publisher: Sundance

Familiar Read: (3 min.) intro. to p. 17

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

1. everything they’re = they + are They’re the

2. other books from my classroom.

3. their Antonyms- together-apart

 Suffixes- enemy, enemies slow, slowly

 stretch, stretches

Before Reading: (5-7 min.)

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

This book is an informational text in a series called That’s Wild. It’s filled with wonderful information! Discuss the cover. Do a picture walk and talk about the many text features the author included to help the reader gain information. (headings, captions, photos, table of contents, bold & colored words, index, glossary)

Read the back of the book and discuss the facts relating to giraffes.

Read and discuss the table of contents.

Difficult Words/Vocabulary – p. 7 distance, Kenya p. 8 ruminants p. 11 savannas, tower over, tongue

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

We will study the photos, read the text and look at the photos again to help us understand what the author is telling us.

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

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

After Reading: (5-7 min.)

* Discuss the story

Where do giraffes live? What do they eat? Look at Kenya on a map.

Use photo on p. 7- Describe a giraffe’s body and tell what it is doing.

Use photo on p. 9- Why does the giraffe’s cheek look like this? Look up ruminants in the glossary to better understand this concept. Is “What Are Giraffes?” a good title for this section?

Show me some evidence from p. 10-17 telling some truths about giraffes.

How are some giraffes similar/different?

Writing Connection: (5 min.)

Make a *Did you know?* page featuring some fun facts about giraffes. If time, add a picture to help the reader learn more about what you are saying.

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Familiar Read: (3 min.) p. 18-32

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

1. because luck-lucky-luckily grace-graceful

2. called most-mostly usual-usually

3. these rare-rarely certain-certainly

Before Reading: (5-7 min.)

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

What did you know about giraffes before reading this book? What did you add to your knowledge after reading yesterday? (browse through the book as you talk so other children can add to the speakers idea)

Discuss the photo on p. 18. (blurry background) Read the heading. What do you think we might learn in this section? Read to confirm.

Difficult Words/Vocabulary – p. 20 decided, p. 23 Zimbabwe

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

Use text features to gain knowledge.

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

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

After Reading: (5-7 min.)

* Discuss the story Use the text to verify learning.

How do giraffes protect themselves from predators? (on p. 19)

Tell me about a wild fact on p. 20. (sleep standing up)

What did you notice about the giraffe’s appearance on p. 21? (leaf shaped spots mentioned on p. 12) Have you ever seen with this type of spots?

p. 23 Talk about the difficulties of being so tall? What problems do you know this causes? Can you think of other things that would be difficult to do? (Act out giraffes drinking water and eating leaves.) Reread the last paragraph on p. 23 and discuss.

What did you find out about groups of giraffes? P. 24

Tell me about herds of giraffes. Who is the leader? How is this determined?

Use something to show the height of a baby giraffe. How many years does a giraffe live before it is not considered a calf? (4 years, compare this to humans) What age is considered very old for giraffes? (they live to be about 25, so perhaps anything over 20)

Use the glossary as a quiz game- Ask questions to verify learning or encourage kids to ask the questions to the group.

What text features made this book more enjoyable? What features helped you understand things more vividly?

Writing Connection: (5 min.)

Write a heading about giraffes. Tell some facts related to your heading.

If time, add another heading and facts. Include pictures.