Before Reading: (5-7 min.).
*Summarize plot (M)  
*Discuss pictures (M)  
*Unfamiliar book language/character names (S)  
*Draw upon students’ experiences (M)

Look at the front cover and read the title. What do you know or wonder about the White House? (Record information in journals or chart paper.)

This nonfiction book gives information about the history of the White House and some of the interesting events that happened there.

The text is well organized and filled with tidbits about historical events and people.

Read about the building of the White House, the burning of the White House, interesting presidential gifts, pets, bedrooms and gardens.

*New or important words (V): p. 5 British; p. 8 wheel of cheese, morsels; p. 10 olive branch; p. 14 pardon

Unusual aspect of text layout (V)

Suggested Teaching Point (Behaviors to Notice and Support) or focus on a Comprehension Strategy: connections, questions, inferences, visualizing, summarizing, synthesizing, determining importance.

Good readers think about (infer) what lesson the author may be trying to teach them.

During Reading: (10-15 min).
Students silently read the text, or you may choose to listen to a few whisper read the text. While students are silently reading, you can start another group or conference with students.

After Reading: (8-10 min.)
*Discuss the story  
-clarify confusion, revisiting parts of the text that posed problems for readers  
-acknowledge partially correct responses, seeking to understand students’ perspectives  
*Connect discussion to the teaching point and/or a comprehension strategy (see above)

Talk about the book.
Identify the main idea and supporting details in each section.
What did you find most surprising? What would you like to learn more about concerning the White House?
What do you think the author wanted you to learn from this book?

Writing Connection (optional):
What would be the best part (as a child) about living in the White House?
What would be the worst?

Presidential Pets….good companion book.