“Jose! Born to Dance”

Vocabulary
1. towered  — taller than others
2. stubborn  — determined
3. border  — boundary
4. hauling  — carrying, moving
5. permission  — allow something
6. discouraged  — hopeless
7. mournful  — sad
8. toured  — took a sightseeing trip
9. debut  — first public appearance
10. triumph  — succeed

Story Skill: Author’s Purpose
What are the author’s reasons for writing? Does she want to inform, entertain, or persuade readers? Which details support the author’s purpose?

The author may state the purpose, or the purpose may be implied.

Decoding Skill: Vowel + R in Multisyllable Words
One or more vowels and the consonant -r are part of the same syllable.

The same vowels followed by -r can have different pronunciations and readers must think about how to pronounce correctly before decoding the word.

Comprehension Questions
1. Why does the author tell about the pet canary that sang to Jose?
2. When did Jose first see the dancers?
3. At the beginning, why does the author describe types of dancing?
4. Why does the author use Spanish words?
5. Why did Jose and his family move to Nogales?
6. What effect did the students’ teasing have on Jose?
7. Why does Jose go to New York?