

SACRAMENTO STATE



READING TO CHILDREN

Created by Dr. Candace Goldsworthy, Dr. Robert Pieretti, and the Spring 2012 Curriculum Class (SPHP 222) in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology at California State University, Sacramento.

Reading to children promotes school readiness. Asking children questions about the stories you read helps with this. Here are some specific questions that readers can ask children to get them thinking and talking about stories. Start slow -- point to the pictures and give the answers yourself to begin. Slowly work up to having the child answer the questions when you ask them.

1. BEFORE reading a book, look at the pages and pictures and talk.....

Ask/Instruct/Help using any that apply:

- a. How do you hold a book? Show me.
- b. Point to the cover, the back of the book (spine), and the author's name.
- c. What's the title of the book?
- d. Who's the author/writer of the book?
- e. What do you think the book is going to be about?
- f. Point to the 1st page of the book.
- g. Point to the 1st word of the book.
- h. Will you turn the pages for me when we read?
- i. Do you have a (dog, cat, anything from the story)/ Have you seen a (dog, cat, anything from the story)?
- j. Have you seen anything like this before?

2. DURING reading, pause to ask questions.....

Ask/Instruct/Help using any that apply:

- a. Where should I read next? (have the child tell you to turn the page)
- b. Where is the page number?
- c. Can you follow what I am reading with your finger?
- d. Where is the first letter in this line/word?
- e. Where is the story happening?
- f. When is the story happening?
- g. What/who does this remind you of?
- h. Why did the character do that?
- i. What do you think is going to happen next?
- j. Have you seen anything like this before?
- k. How does this character feel?
- l. Have you ever felt that way before?

3. AFTER READING the book, review the story by talking about the book.....

Ask/Instruct/Help using any that apply:

- a. Who was the story about?
- b. Where did the story happen?
- c. When did the story happen?
- d. What happened in the story?
- e. What happened after that?
- f. What else happened?
- g. How did the story end?
- h. Did the character learn anything?
- i. Did the character make good choices?
- j. What did you learn from the story? (Was there a moral?)
- k. What was your favorite part/page?
- l. Which picture did you like the best? Which picture did you NOT like the best? Why?
- m. What would you have done if you were in the story?