



Dialogic Reading

Dialogic reading is having a conversation around the *pictures* in a book. You are not reading the book. The adult becomes the listener and questioner and the child is the teller of the story. You are developing your child's vocabulary (learning new words) and narrative skills (telling stories and events) in young children. Children who can respond to you with at least a phrase are ready for dialogic reading.

Speak in the language that is most comfortable for YOU!

Part I: Tips to Build Vocabulary

- Ask "what" questions: What's this?
- Follow answers with another question
- Repeat what your child says; wait to encourage your child to speak more
- Help your child as needed
- Give answer and child repeats
- Praise and encourage your child
- Follow your child's interests

Part II: Tips to Build Sentence Skills

Allow time for your child to respond to what you say—5 seconds

- Ask "open-ended" questions:
 - What's going on here?
 - Tell me what you see on this page.
- Follow answers with another question:
 - What else do you see?
 - I wonder how . . .
 - How did that happen?
 - What do you think?
 - When did you?
- Expand what your child says
 - Add another piece of information
 - Help your child repeat your longer phrases
- Help your child make connections to past experiences and future events. Examples:
 - When did you . . . ?
 - How did you feel when . . . ?
 - How would you feel if . . . ?



Let's Take a Book Picture Walk

A picture walk helps develop your children's language and pre-reading skills. The book picture walk allows you to find out what your child knows based on the pictures and encourages them to think about what they think might happen in the story.

You are not reading the book. You are encouraging your child to talk about the pictures.

Speak in the language that is most comfortable for YOU!

What to do:

- Look at the cover.
- Point to and say name of title, author, illustrator.
- Ask your child what he thinks the book is about.
- Without reading the words in the book, encourage your child to turn the pages one at a time.
- Talk about each picture. Allow time for your child to respond to what you say—5 seconds.
- Point to a picture and ask, questions such as:
 - What's this?
 - What do you think is happening?
 - What is happening on this page?
 - Where do you think they are going?
 - What might happen next?
- Remember to take turns talking.
- Rephrase what your child says to help your child learn more language.
 - Introduce new words and what they mean.
 - Gently correct grammar simply by saying the sentence correctly.
- Add what you know to what your child says.
- Help your child make connections to past and future events.
 - When did you . . . ?
 - How did you feel when . . . ?
 - How would you feel if . . . ?