

How can you help your child while reading? Here are some strategies:

K and 1<sup>st</sup>

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Phonemic Awareness**

Play a rhyming game that involves looking for pictures in the book and having the child make up words that rhyme with the picture. For example, if the book has a picture of a cat, have your child make up words like *bat*, *hat*, and *rat*.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Comprehension**

As you read the book together stop now and then and retell what you just read to the child. Ask your child if this make sense, if there are words they do not understand, and why the author tells the story in this way.

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Comprehension**

Ask your child to think about the book and talk to you about any, or all, of the following:

- (1) What do you know after reading the story?
- (2) What do you feel about what you read?
- (3) What else does it make you think about?
- (4) What questions do you have?

6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Comprehension**

Ask your child to think about the book and talk to you about any, or all, of the following:

- (1) Which character do you like best and why?
- (2) Which character did you like least and why?
- (3) Why did the author use this setting for the story?
- (4) What do you know after reading the story?
- (5) What do you feel about what you read?
- (6) What else does it make you think about?
- (7) What questions do you have?

8<sup>th</sup>

**Develop Comprehension**

Ask your child to think about the book and talk to you about any, or all, of the following:

- (1) Which character do you like best and why?
- (2) Which character did you like least and why?
- (3) Why did the author use this setting for the story?
- (4) What do you know after reading the story?
- (5) What do you feel about what you read?
- (6) What else does it make you think about?
- (7) What questions do you have for the author?
- (8) Would you read another book by this author? Why or why not?
- (9) Did this author help you realize anything about the way to live life well?

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Phonics**

As you read the book together have your child point to words that end with the sounds *-at*, *-ed*, *-ig*. For example, *bat*, *bed*, *pig*.

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Fluency**

Take turns rereading each page of the book. Read expressively in order to encourage your child to model your expressions or create new ones

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Vocabulary**

Ask your child to keep a word journal of 2 or 3 new words they have learned from reading this book.

- (1) Write the new word.
- (2) Copy the sentence in which it is used.
- (3) Write a definition in his/her own words.
- (4) Draw a small picture which reminds them what the word means.

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Vocabulary**

Ask your child to keep a running word log to record words from each chapter which fit into each of the following categories.

- (1) Multiple meaning words
- (2) Vivid verbs
- (3) Figurative language (simile, metaphor)
- (4) Words associated with book title
- (5) Sense images ( smell, touch, taste, hear, see)
- (6) Words associated with main person in the story

**Family Opportunities to Help Develop Vocabulary**

Ask your child to keep a word log to record new and/or interesting words discovered while reading the book.

- (1) Write each new word.
- (2) Write a personal definition from context.
- (3) Look each word up in the dictionary and write definition which fits the context noting its usage as *noun*, *verb*, or *adjective*.
- (4) Write an original sentence with each new word.