

# Reading to Children: Read-Aloud Tips

## Read-aloud tips<sup>1</sup>:

- Introduce the book: read the title, author, and illustrator; look at the cover; talk about what the book might be about; suggest things to look and listen for.
- Run your finger under the text, while reading.
- Ask children to look closely at the pictures to help them understand the story and make predictions about what might happen next.
- Repeat interesting words and rhymes while reading a book and at a later time.
- Pause and wait so children can say the word that ends a repetitive or predictable phrase.
- Stop to ask thinking questions: "What might happen next? Where did he go? Why did she do that?"
- Answer questions related to the book; save other questions for later.
- Ask a child to imagine what he or she might do in a situation similar to that faced by a character (if applicable).
- Talk about what you have read. Books often evoke strong feelings that need to be shared. Offer your reactions and invite a child to do the same.

## After reading the book, ask the children the below process questions:

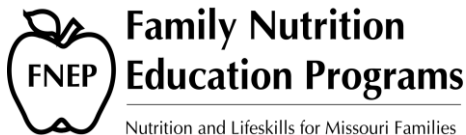
1. What does this book tell us about \_\_\_\_\_ (food, eating, hand washing, germs, food groups, etc.)?
2. How did you feel at the end of the book<sup>2</sup>?
3. Do you have any questions about the pictures in the book<sup>2</sup>?
4. Now that you know about \_\_\_\_\_ (food, eating, hand washing, germs, food groups, etc.), what will you do differently at home, school, or other places?

## Optional question:

- 1.) What foods have you tried that you saw pictured in this book? How did the food feel, smell, and/or taste?

1. Adapted from Reading is Fundamental
2. Adapted from *Early Childhood Experiences in Language Arts: Emerging Literacy* by Jeanne M. Machado

Thanks to Robin Gammon, Alison Copeland and the Kindergarten SMN pilot team (Sirena Cooper, Sue Robison, Becky Mannigel, Joyce Jerman, Tylane Garrett, Dana McGuire, Jan Swafford, Sara Cooper and Cheryl Zvacek) for developing this guidesheet. 2/08



Funded in part by USDA's Food Stamp Program