IDEA Bookmarks

Reading aloud is a great way for caregivers to support their children's development of literacy skills such as comprehension and vocabulary. This is especially true when caregivers utilize intentional strategies like those outlined in these bookmarks to support comprehension and encourage students to make connections between the text and their own life.

Additional Resources

For more information on dialogic reading strategies, read the Iowa Reading Research Center blog post "**Caregiver Involvement When Reading Books to Children**" by Anna Gibbs, Ph.D., Chang-Jen Lin, M.Ed., and Deborah K. Reed, Ph.D.

IDENTIFY STORY ELEMENTS

As you read the story, highlight the story elements (e.g., characters, setting) in the story

DEFINE UNFAMILIAR WORDS

As you approach an unfamiliar word, provide a definition and an example that the child can relate to.

ELICIT LITERAL AND INFERENTIAL INFORMATION

Ask questions that can be answered by thinking about the text and combine it with what they already know.

ANALYZE ILLUSTRATIONS

Discuss illustrations to reinforce new word learning and narrative elements (e.g., characters, setting).

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