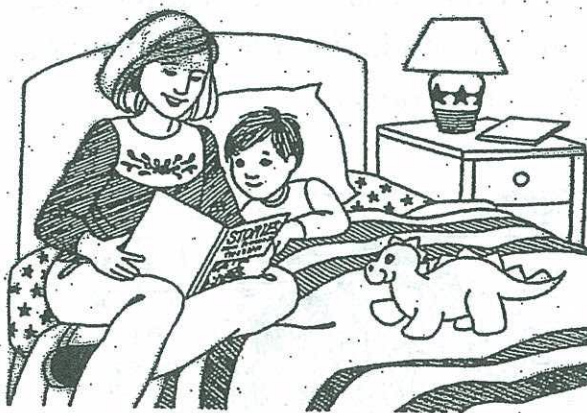




## Talking Through a Book

The purpose of this exercise is to get your child familiar with the book so he/she will feel comfortable about reading it. The discussion also helps draw attention to important ideas and concepts, allows your child to hear language in context, and provides an opportunity for your child to share his or her knowledge and experiences.

1. Go through the book from the beginning to the end looking at the pictures.
  - ◆ What do you think this book will be about? How do you know?
  - ◆ Who will the story be about? How do you know?
  - ◆ Where does the story take place?
  - ◆ Look at the pictures and predict what will happen.
  - ◆ Discuss any words you think your child may find difficult to read or understand. This is a good opportunity to develop vocabulary and explain concepts your child will need to know to understand the book.
  - ◆ Read the title.
2. Allow your child to offer his/her knowledge.
  - ◆ What do you know about \_\_\_\_\_?
  - ◆ Have you read other stories about this?
  - ◆ Has something like this ever happened to you?





## Paired Reading

### Purpose

Paired reading should be a fun, stress free way for parents to help their children with reading. It improves fluent reading, which in turn improves comprehension. **Fun, fluency, and finding meaning** are the three F's of paired reading.

### Preparation

1. Have your child choose a book.
2. Find a quiet and comfortable place to read.
3. Discuss the title and pictures, and have your child predict what he/she thinks will happen.

### Procedure

1. Read out loud together, matching your child's pace.
2. If your child does not know a word, give him/her five seconds to figure it out. If your child is unable to decode the word, say the word and have your child repeat it. Then continue reading together.
3. When your child taps the page or your arm, stop reading out loud and let your child continue reading alone.
4. If your child does not know a word, give him/her five seconds to figure it out. If your child is unable to decode the word, say the word and have your child repeat it. Then continue reading together until the child signals again.
5. After reading the book, or a page or two if it is long, have your child tell you what has happened to be sure he/she is reading for meaning.
6. Try to read together five days a week. Do not read more than 15 minutes at a time unless your child requests to do so.



## STRATEGIES FOR UNKNOWN WORDS

**Running Start** - Go back to the beginning of the sentence and read quickly to the unknown word and see if you can read it through. Especially good when: 1) the unknown word is near the end of the sentence, or 2) you get confused and can't remember what you've just read.



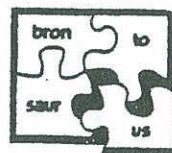
**Leap Frog** - Leap over the word and read to the end of the sentence. Then go back to the beginning and reread.



**MSSLL (Missile)** - Look at the beginning letter or letters. Make a prediction and confirm by asking, "Does it make sense, does it sound like language we would use?"



**Puzzle Strategy** - Take the word apart like a puzzle and look for pieces that you know, like a word family.



**Caboose** - Look for an ending. Sometimes it helps to cover up the ending with your finger.



**Nate the Great** - Look hard at the picture clues to help you figure out the word.

**Viola Swamp** - If you've tried Running Start, Leap Frog, and MSSLL, you can just substitute a word that would make sense and keep going. This is especially useful for hard names.



**Frog and Toad** - If you've tried at least one other strategy, you can ask a friend. Remember, teamwork is important!