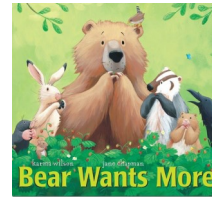
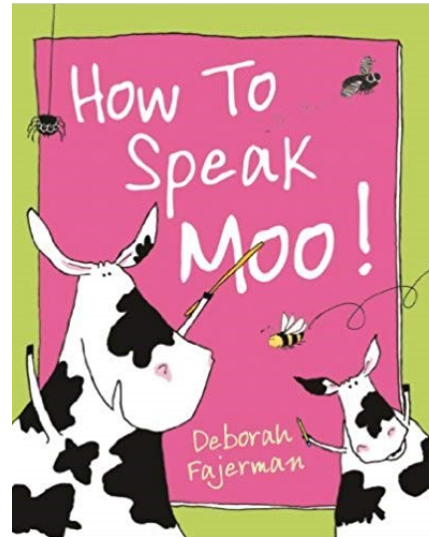


Reading With Preschoolers



4-5 YEARS OLD

- Enjoys books.
- Listens to longer stories.
- Knows when you have skipped parts of a story.
- Can retell familiar stories.
- Can answer questions about what is happening in the book.
- Recognizes, points to and names familiar letters.
- Understands what the text is (points to the print, follows along the text with finger).



For Preschoolers Choose:

- Books about how things work—like dump trucks or gardening.
- “Once Upon a Time” books.
- Books about special topics (e.g. going to school).
- Books about feelings and relationships.
- Books with simple text that a child can remember.
- Books with different types of font (large, colour).
- Books that your child is interested in—let them choose, even if it isn’t age appropriate.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH YOUR PRESCHOOLER?

- Help them retell the story : Try acting out the story (e.g. pretend to hibernate like a bear) or use pictures.
- Help your child predict (e.g. “What do you think will happen when the wolf tries to blow down the brick house?”).
- Talk about words that your child may not know; explain using words that they DO know (e.g. “*humungous*—that means really, really, big like an elephant”).
- Relate it to their life experiences (e.g. “Remember when you fell and hurt your knee ?” or “That dog is really small, just like Jane’s dog”).
- Talk about emotions (e.g. “How do you think he feels?”).
- Talk about things your child cannot experience in “real life” (e.g. dragons).

POINT OUT THE PRINT

- When introducing a new book, point out the title (e.g. “This is the *title*; the title of this book is *The Three Little Pigs*”).
- Point to a few words as you read, especially words that are meant to stand out, like “*whoosh*” or “*chomp*”.
- Occasionally point to the first letter in a word and mention the sound it makes.
- Point out words that rhyme or start with the same letter.
- Point out long words, short words or words that sound funny.

