

Dialogic Reading:

Support for parents when sharing dialogic reading books with their children.

This method involves you (the parent) having a conversation with your child about the book. This helps to develop and introduce new vocabulary.

This approach to sharing a book is used after you have read a book through at least once. It can be used while reading almost every page of a book. The goal is simple: to let the child become the storyteller of the book. Then the adult reads less over time. Listen to the child talk; follow what is being shared by the child.

PEER Sequence: The fundamental reading technique in dialogic reading is the PEER sequence. This is a short interaction between a child and the adult. The adult:

- Prompts the child to say something about the book,
- Evaluates the child's response,
- Expands the child's response by rephrasing and adding information to it, and
- Repeats the prompt to make sure the child has learned from the expansion.

Imagine that the parent and the child are looking at the page of a book that has a picture of a fire engine on it. The parent says, "What is this?" (The prompt) while pointing to the fire truck. The child says, *truck*, and the parent follows with "That's right (the evaluation); it's a red fire truck (the expansion); can you say *fire truck*?" (The repetition).

Except for the first reading of a book to children, PEER sequences should occur on nearly every page. Sometimes you can read the written words on the page and then prompt the child to say something. For many books, you should do less and less reading of the written words in the book each time you read it. Leave more to the child.

Prompt the child to say something about the book or page.

- Ask the child a question about something on the page (Point to an object and ask them...What is that?)
- Have the child name an object on the page or talk about something in the story. This gets them engaged in the story and helps build their vocabulary. Evaluate the child's response.
 - Is their answer correct? This will help you figure out what information you can add. Expand the child's response by rephrasing or adding a little more information to it.
- Expand on what the child said. This will help to build their vocabulary.
- If the child gave an incorrect answer, help him with the correct answer. Repeat the child's response to make sure that the child has learned something from it.
- Have the child repeat your expansion. This, too, will help their vocabulary.