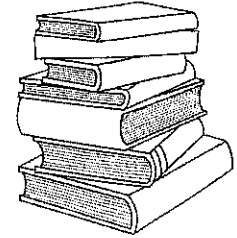


# Speech and Language Ideas for Read Across America Week

Did you know that reading with your child is a great opportunity to work on developing language skills? The next time you read with your child try practicing these skills based on your child's age.



## 3

- Expand upon your child's expressive utterance by adding one word. Example: Child says, "kick ball". Adult repeats, "I kick ball."
- When using repetitive text, start a phrase and let your child try to finish it. For example, "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What \_\_\_\_\_"
- Work on using pronouns "I" and "me" in sentences. Give models to encourage your child. Example: I will turn the page.
- Work on recognizing actions in pictures. Name an action and have your child point to it. Example: Which boy is sleeping?
- Work on finding items by functions. Describe the use of an item you see on the page and have your child find it. Example: I see something you use to brush your teeth!

## 4

- When looking at a page ask your child simple WHO, WHEN, and HOW MANY questions. Example: Who is driving the bus?
- Talk about the characters in the book. Focus on one or two characters. Describe the character's looks. Talk about the actions of the character. Do you like the character or not?
- Encourage longer utterances by remaining quiet and letting your child do all the talking. Encourage combining simple sentences with the word 'and' as a conjunction.
- Work on increasing the length of your child's utterances by adding descriptor words that include adverbs (ex. quickly, quietly) and adjectives (ex. long, blue, hot.)
- Practice comparing skills (ex. longer, shorter) and basic concepts (ex. behind, between).

## 5

- Work on the sequence of the story. Practice retelling with transition words such as, FIRST, NEXT, and LAST.
- Find and practice rhyming words in the book.
- Work on identifying letter names in the text. Model the skill and see if your child can find the same letter.
- Work on grammar that is more adult-like including early irregular verbs (ate, ran, etc.) and articles (a, the.)
- Practice more logic-based questions such as WHY and HOW.
- Provide opportunities for your child to ask questions that start with "Do you...", "Can you..." and "Are we ...."
- Practice giving simple definitions for common objects.