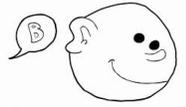




# October Café Reading Strategy Listen with Understanding



When listening to a story, many times children hear the words being read but do not understand. They are too busy looking at the pictures or thinking other thoughts, and forget to take time to think about what is being read. If they continue to do this, they will lose the desire to read because they will be unaware that text holds meaning. As children advance as readers, they can develop the habit of reading through text without monitoring their understanding of the story being told.

**Listen with understanding** is a comprehension strategy that teaches children to stop frequently to think about if they understand what is being read. Knowing a story is written to tell us or teach us something helps a beginning reader to think about the text as they listen to the story. Emergent readers should stop often when being read to, and answer the “who” the story is about and “what” is happening.

## How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

1. When reading to your child, stop periodically and ask, “Who is the story about and **what** happened in the story?” Do this 3 or 4 times throughout the story.
2. When reading to your child, stop and have them check their listening skills. Provide your child with a questions before reading a selection, so they can tune in and listen to find the answer.
3. Ask your child some of the following questions:
  - What is going on in the story?
  - Who is the story about?
  - What is happening in the story?
  - What were thinking about while you listened to the story?
  - Do you have any questions about what is going on?
  - What do you do if you don’t remember what happened?

Thank you for you continued support at home!