Interactive Reading

Increasing Early Learning Opportunities
Training Module

Lunch and Learn
At Families First Resource Center
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Interactive book reading is a \textbf{STYLE} of storytelling.
Involves 3 Main components

- The use of concrete objects to represent parts or words in the story
- Opportunities for children to use the words they here in a story
- The use of open-ended questions to engage children to talk during storytelling

How to Make Reading Interactive

Use concrete objects

• Representing Story Vocabulary
• Representing Story Characters
• Associated with Parts of the Story colored objects
How to Make Reading Interactive

Provide opportunities for children to use the words they hear in a story

• Reinforce vocabulary in play and daily routines
• Provide Extension Activities
• Add pieces of information to what they already know
  which will generate new understandings
How to Make Reading Interactive

Use open-ended questions

• Make statements then ask children to describe
  what they are doing, what they think, what they see,
  what they need, why they did something, how they created

• Validate and reinforce children’s ideas and responses

• Use concepts and describing words

• The presentation of questions will need to be adapted for younger children and children with lower language abilities
  – Provide choices in questions
  – Ask children to identify or point to objects, actions, or people
Add your own STYLE

• Find your voice and use it
• Be animated
• Emphasize & Exaggerate words, actions, emotions
• Elaborate points of interest
• Make it an enjoyable experience

“A teacher’s reading style has an impact on children’s comprehension of stories,” (Roser & Martinez, 1985)
What an engaging experience looks like

The following information was adapted from:
Before Reading

Activate Prior Knowledge
Introduce the story by associating the topic to familiar experiences/vocabulary/stories

Preview the story
Take a picture walk

Make Predictions
What the story is about
What might happen

Use Questions to encourage interest
Ask personal questions to level of each child
During Reading

Use concrete props
   Directly related to the story
Maintain limits of behavior and interactions
   Emphasize turn taking
Listening and Participating
Use open-ended questions
   Make connections to things they already know
Make Inferences and Predictions
   Why do you think ...?
   What will happen next?
Encourage children to ask questions
Rephrase words when needed to help children understand the content
Talk about the pictures
After Reading

Review the sequence of the story
Create opportunities for children to use the words they hear in a story
Carry “lessons” of the story over into play
Encourage related activities to the story in play centers
Mentally Self-Evaluate the Experience
  Were the children engaged?
  Did they learn something new?
  Was it an enjoyable experience?
Facilitate Story Retellings
If the children are ENGAGED—it is INTERACTIVE

Engaged Children Will…

Attend to a story
Be enthusiastic about new topics
Learn new vocabulary
Comprehend Stories
Follow directions
Enjoy Story Time

and

Ultimately, develop a love for reading!