



HOW TO CONDUCT A BOOK TALK

There is really no right or wrong way to do a book talk! The important thing is that your child is reading a book that he or she enjoys and that you are sharing in that enjoyment. This reading and sharing must take place regularly to be effective!

You may choose to simply have an in-depth conversation about what happened (the major events) in the part of the book your child reads each day. Or, perhaps you would like to focus your child's response to literature more specifically. Suggested questions to help guide your book talks are listed below.

- Where and when does the story take place? How do you know?
- What problem or situation does the author use to get the story started?
- What does the author do to make you want to read on to find out what happens?
- Did the story end the way you expected it to? What clues did the author give?
- Who is the main character of the story? What kind of person is the character? How do you know?
- Are there any characters that changed in some way during the story?
- Name a minor character. Why is this character necessary to the story?
- Who is telling the story?
- What are the main ideas behind the story?
- What words would you use to describe the main character's feelings in this book?
- What was the funniest part? The saddest? The most exciting? The strangest?
- Is there a message, or theme, in this story? What is it?
- How is the problem solved?
- How does the story end? Did you like the ending or would you have ended it differently?