Emergent Storybook Reading With Your Child How To Start

Early exposure to Emergent Storybooks is important in helping children become successful readers. Emergent storybooks make up the bulk of our reading materials for the beginning part of the year. For critical attributes of Emergent Storybooks, see below. Think of Emergent Storybooks as "old favorites" like Corduroy, The Hungry Caterpillar, and Where the Wild Things Are.

As the year progresses, your child will begin to read conventional texts. While conventional texts enable a child to practice basic reading skills (such as one-to-one correspondence, sight-word familiarity, and patterning in text), they are limited in offering the reader the opportunity for deeper comprehension and joyful reading. Therefore, continuing to read rich emergent stories to your child (even after your child becomes a conventional reader) is vital to their success as a reader.

Here are the criteria for selecting emergent storybooks:

- Emergent storybooks have a narrative structure with characters and a plot.
- Emergent storybooks have attractive illustrations that closely match the text.
- Emergent storybooks often have a repeating refrain or line throughout the text.
- Emergent storybooks often have dialogue.
- Emergent storybooks have an engaging story that interests children and some emotional content to which they can relate.
- Emergent storybooks tend not to rhyme.

Here are some emergent storybooks we will be reading in class:

- 1. Stellaluna
- 2. Cordurov
- 3. Where The Wild Things Are
- 4. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble
- 5. The Gingerbread Man
- 6. The Hungry Caterpillar

Here are some books series:

- 1. Froggy
- 2. Harry the Dirty Dog
- 3. Curious George
- 4. Francis
- 5. Clifford
- 6. Angelina Ballerina

Here are some recommended authors:

1. Eric Carle

- 2. Jan Brett
- 3. Kevin Henkes
- 4. Ezra Jack Keats

Before Reading the Story:

- Find a comfortable place where you and your child can look at the book together.
- Look at the books cover and say the title. You might talk to each other about the characters and what's happening in the picture.
- You may make a prediction about what you think the story is going to be about.

While Reading the Story:

- Read the story aloud to your child while looking at the pictures together.
- As you read, model positive reading behaviors:
 - Touch under the words with one-to-one correspondence, moving from left to right
 - Gently turn the pages *from the corners*
 - Stop the reading of the story to comment on character actions/ feelings or subtle clues within the pictures.
 - Stop the reading to make predictions about what happens next.
 - Stop the reading to act out parts of the story

After Reading the Story:

Here are some good questions to ask after you have finished reading the story:

- What happened in the story?
- Who are the characters in the story?
- What was your favorite part of the story?
- Tell me about the (things, places, animals) in this story?
- What is the title of the story?
- What happened at the beginning (or end) of the story?
- How were the (name two characters) alike/different from each other?
- How were the characters feeling and why?

Some children may be ready for these questions:

- What happened at the beginning? Middle? End?
- What was the main idea of the story?
- Who was the main character?
- Did you like/dislike the main character?
- Who were the other characters in the story?
- What was the setting of the story?
- What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?
- Does this story remind you of something you have done?
- Does this story remind you of another story you have heard?