

Session 4: Shared Storybook Reading Program Parent Handout

Dialogic Reading and CROWD Prompts

An important element of dialogic reading is asking questions, and certain types of questions are better than other for engaging your child in extended conversations that are like to build vocabulary, enhance knowledge of print, build skills in identifying sounds and letters and help your child make gains in language development that later lead to stronger reading and writing skills.

CROWD is a word to help you remember to ask different types of question. Each letter represents a particular type of question.

Completion prompts require that you ask your child questions about language used in the story. Ask your child to fill in a repeated word or rhyme. This helps you child learn how to listen. For example, "Jack and Jill went up a _____."

Recall prompts help your child tell what happened in a story. Ask your child what the characters are doing. This helps your child develop the ability to follow a storyline and to retell details. For example, you can say, "What happened when Jack and Jill went up the hill?"

Open-ended prompts give your child the chance to tell what is happening in a picture or story. Prompt your child by asking, "What is going on in this picture?"

Wh-prompts are usually what, where, when and why questions. You might say, "What is the name of this," while pointing to an object on a page. You might also ask, "Where are Jack and Jill going?" and "Why are Jack and Jill walking up the hill?" the wh-questions teach your child new vocabulary words.

Distancing prompts ask your child to relate something in the story to her own life. Example of distancing prompts include, "What you ever played in sand", "What did it look like", "What did it feel like?", "Did you ever roll down a hill?", and "What did it feel like"