How does sharing thinking help you understand new ideas?

How can representing and describing ideas in different ways help you learn?

Objectives

- to describe the relationship between illustrations and text
- to actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding
- to identify the cover of the book and title
- to identify the setting (where & when) and the main characters
- to identify the main topic and retell important details of the story
- to ask and answer questions about unknown vocabulary
- to name the author & illustrator and describe their role in the making of the book

Questions to Develop Understanding

- How do the author & illustrator work together to create a piece of fiction?
- How does identifying the setting help me understand more about the story?
- How does identifying the characters help me understand more about the story?
- How does making predictions help keep me engaged in the story?
- How does retelling the events of the story help me understand it better?
- How does making connections between myself and the characters in the book help further my understanding?

Learning Experiences

Through the reading of a variety of literary texts in whole and small group settings, we will:

- discuss the roles of authors and illustrators
- discuss how both print/text and illustrations/pictures convey meaning
- identify story elements (setting, characters, plot) to anchor discussions and thought processes through drawing and writing
- make meaningful predictions based upon background knowledge, personal experiences, and previous actions/motivations of characters
- retell using pictures and words

Vocabulary

text story fiction make believe cover title author illustrator predict retell
describe setting character plot problem solution beginning/middle/end

Support at Home

Ask questions before, during, and after reading. Do not only ask recall questions, however.

Examples: “Who was the main character?” “What happened in the beginning of the story?”

These types of questions are fine to ask in order to check for understanding, but you also want to ask higher-level thinking questions.

Examples: “Why do you think _____ decided to _____ instead of _____?” “Does this story remind you of a story that we read last week, and how?” “The title for this book is okay, but can you think of another one that would really make a reader want to pick it up off the shelf?”