



2024 Childcan's DPIL Reading Guidelines for Children born in 2019

Before Reading With Your Child:

Snuggling together to read a book builds a child's language and learning. Reading a good book multiple times with different questions encourages a deeper understanding of language and stronger comprehension. Read the book to yourself before reading it to your child so you can share any personal experience that relates to the story or any background information about the topic so that your child has more of a connection to the story.

During Reading:

There are six important concepts to practice. Choose one or two each time you read.

Book Awareness: Point out the title and author and ask what they think the book will be about.

Word Awareness: Find rhyming words, names of people or animals, words connected to the topic of the book.

Knowledge: Each book has a topic. Help your child to understand the topic by discussing the book's message or by sharing extra information about the topic.

Math Skills: Counting is one of the easiest ways to bring math to a story. Count items on the page. Some stories bring in math topics by using a clock, measuring something, talking about shapes, etc.

Story Line: As you go through the story, stop and ask questions about what just happened or why it happened.

Relating to the Storyline: Children need to relate to a story to remember it better. Ask them how they would have felt in the same situation or if they have ever done anything like that.

After Reading:

Think of activities that repeat what was done in the story, or increase their knowledge of the topic by sharing information, or give them a chance to express what they learned or felt by drawing something. Many of the books stress colours, shapes and directional words. Find more examples around your home.

2024 DPIL Books for children born in 2019 focus on school preparation and readiness. Some books might use pictures for words (rebus), some books are about science, or folk tales and some deal with topics such as appreciation. Rhymes and poetry continue to be used and enjoyed.

Below are some helpful guidelines to use when reading stories.

When the Moon Comes by Paul Harbridge

- Find words that show winter is coming. Say the months of the year. Name the seasons.
- Topics such as seasons, playing outdoor hockey and friends can be explored with each reading.
- Why does Arthur want to wait before skating and playing hockey on the pond?
- How can you tell that winter has come?
- How do the children keep warm after the long hike to the beaver pond?
- Why did they bring a shovel? (To clear away the snow off the ice so they can skate.)
- When the sun has set, what helps them to see while they are on the ice?
- What did they notice about the moon when it's very cold?
- Why did their game end?
- What did they bring to have after their games?
- Have you ever been outside in the winter in the dark? What did you see?
- Have you looked out a window at the dark night? What did you see?
- Would you like to play outside at night with only moonlight?
- Look out a window in the night before bedtime and have your child name all the things they can see. Look out a front window where a streetlight might help them see more things, then look out a window into the back yard to see the difference.

Fairy Science

- Find words about science. (Facts, data, hard evidence, laboratory, species, evolved, dispersion, condensation, erosion, scientific method, research, hypothesis, experiments, results, conclusion, periodic table, elements, gravity)
- Find words about magic. (path to hidden gold, dangerous omen, faces of spirits, cast spells, make magic talismans, mystical moonlight dances)
- Topics such as science can be explored with each reading.
- There are many stories about fairies and the magic they can do. How is Esther different from the other fairies? (She believes in Science and not in magic.)
- The fairies were frightened of fog but how did Esther feel about fog?
- What are all the things a plant needs to grow?
- What was this tree missing? (Sunlight). Why? (There were so many taller trees around it, the sun couldn't get through to the tree.)
- Have you ever found a stone and thought it looked like the shape of an animal? Is it an animal?
- Follow the instructions for the Sun-Bean Experiment.

The Not-So Great Outdoors by Madeline Kloepper

- Find phrases to explain their meaning to your child, like "venture into the great outdoors, electricity, fountains, sculptures, city lights, dog parks, street performers (see 1st page), catching a bus, skyline
- Topics such as the difference between downtown city living to camping in wildlife areas can be explored with each reading.
- Find the little girl talking to her two friends on the city street and find her family in the packed car waiting for her.
- What kinds of things are there to do living in the city?
- As they travel away from the city, the little girl complains about what she's missing. Is she correct? Find the things out in the wilderness that she's missing when she says there's nothing out there.
- What did the girl see that made her change her mind about camping for another night?
- Have you ever camped outside? What did you like about it? What did you miss about sleeping in your home?

- Take a ride through the country and look at how different the scenery is.
- Take a ride through the downtown area and think about how different it is from the country.
- Find out the names of some of the animals shown in this book.

In the Clouds by Elly MacKay

As you read about all the questions the little girl has about clouds, have your child share what they know about clouds and what questions they might like to ask to learn more about clouds. At the end of the book the little girl's questions are all answered and your child gets to see the different kinds of clouds and their names. Have your child pick their favourite cloud and look for it when they go outside.

Mr. Mole Moves In by Lesley-Anne Green

- Find the words and phrases that show that Mr. Mole is polite.
- Topics such as meeting new people and first impressions can be explored with each reading.
- Count items on the inside covers and on each page. Have your child pick the kind of item they want to count. Notice that all of the textile art in the pictures have been handmade by the author. Talk about the materials used to make those articles as you count.
- What strange way did Mr. Mole greet Racoon?
- What strange thing did Mr. Mole do when he walked into a fence post?
- What did Mr. Mole say to Giraffe that was strange?
- What did Mr. Mole fill his grocery cart with, even though he didn't like fishing?
- What did Mr. Mole give to the 3 young rabbits, thinking they were candies?
- Why did Mr. Mole look scared when all of the animals from Juniper Hollow came to his house?
- What did the youngest rabbit understand that Mr. Mole needed?
- List all of the things you can see that the animals of Juniper Hollow brought to Mr. Mole and think about why they were in the welcome basket.
- How do you introduce yourself when you meet someone new? Do you have an adult that helps with introducing you?
- How do you feel when you meet someone new?
- What information about yourself would you share with someone new that would help them get to know you better?
- Gather stuffed animals or other toys and practice having them meeting them each other to make introductions.

Dim Sum Palace by X. Fang

Have your child share what their favourite food is. Talk about different countries and cultures have special foods. Talk about that families from China have many different foods. A little girl's love of dim sum spills over into her dreams, taking her on a fantastical food-filled adventure. Liddy is so excited about going to the Dim Sum Palace tomorrow with her family that she can't sleep. So when a delicious smell wafts into her room, she hops out of bed, opens her door and steps into . . . an actual palace of dim sum! There are dumplings, baos, buns and more delicious treats than one girl can possibly eat. Liddy just has to take a bite, but she slips and falls . . . into a bowl of dumpling filling. The chefs are so busy rolling, folding and pinching dough that they don't notice they've prepared a most unusual dumpling for the Empress — a Liddy dumpling! Worst of all, she looks good enough to eat.

Freddie the Flyer by Danielle Metcalf-Chenail and Fred Carmichael

A gorgeous picture book that pays homage to aviator Freddie Carmichael — the first Indigenous commercial pilot in the Arctic — with each month of the year highlighting moments from his life, the beauty of the North and the power of dreams.

When Freddie was young, he saw a plane up close for the first time when it dropped off supplies at his family's remote bush camp. He was instantly hooked. Freddie has flown for nearly seventy years, doing everything from supply runs to search and rescue to transporting dog teams to far-flung areas.

This book celebrates Freddie's early dreams of flying and his later achievements. Readers move with Freddie through the year, hearing about his journey as a pilot and leader, while learning the names of the months in Gwich'in and Inuvialuktun at the same time. Art from Inuvialuit painter Audrea Loreen-Wulf perfectly captures the incredible Western Arctic as well as Freddie's love for aviation.

This is Ruby by Sara O'Leary and Alea Marley

-Ruby is a very interesting girl with lots of ideas of what she wants to do. Describe their own room.

-Have your child talk about what they want to do when they get older.

-Explain what a time machine is and discuss with your child where they would go and for what year.

-Ask your child what they would like to do with Ruby.

Red Sky at Night by Elly MacKay

-Find the rhyming words in each weather saying. (you/two, night/delight, grass/pass, gray/day, hill/skill, ill/still, sky/dry, swarm/warm, west/best, sky/nigh, rain/again, hot/not, moon/soon, morning/warning, high/nigh, train/rain, fight/night, east/beast, shore/more, land/hand, towers/showers, tails/gales, roars/doors, rest/best, two/do

-Explain words like: sailor, dew, mist, fishers, no weather is ill, woolly fleeces, ladybugs, nigh, winds of the daytime wrestle and fight, beast, refreshed, frequent, thunderstorms, gales,

-Topics such as different kinds of weather and weather folklore can be explored with each reading. Explain directional words, north/south/west/east

-What makes a sky seem red at night?

-What is this family going to do?

-Point to the name of their boat.

-Explain what a reflection is. Have your child point to the clouds reflected in the water.

-What kind of activities do the children do when they are not fishing?

-What causes a forest to murmur and a mountain to roar?

-What activity did the children do that you liked the best?

-Have you ever gone fishing? Do you know someone who has caught a fish?

-Look for weather signs in the morning and at night.

When your child looks out their front door, tell them what direction they are facing. Do the same for the back door.

Have your child point to the sun in the morning and at night. Explain that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

N
W E
S

On This Airplane by Lourdes Heuer

In this story, have your child follow the family onto the airplane and find out all the people that they meet. Have your child point out the family of four and then all of the people on the plane as they are mentioned in the story.

Count on Me by Miguel Tanco

- Find math words: (geometric shapes, concentric circles, curve, infinite)
- Topics such as the interests of people can be explored with each reading (art, music, science, math, etc.).
- In this book, the little girl tells us that Math is all around us. It's often hidden, and she loves finding it. Be prepared to find out about a lot of math topics and discuss different ones at different times that you read this book,
- If Math is all around us and hidden, what do you know about Math?
- What shapes do you know?
- Run your finger on the smallest circle in the lake and then run your finger over each slightly bigger circle. When you have traced around all those circles, do you remember what they are called? (Concentric circles)
- Find all the shapes you see on the page where the brother and sister are building things together. Don't forget to find the shapes the cat sees as it looks out the window.
- At the top of the slide when she is up so high, she sees many kind of curvy lines. Trace around all the curves that you see.
- How do the other children feel waiting for their turn as the girl draws a curvy shape?
- List all the groups that you see when they are in the kitchen eating.
- Have you ever made paper airplanes and flown them?
- What part of the math things that the little girl liked did you like as well?
- How do you make a paper airplane?
- What patterns can you see in your home? What patterns do you see on your clothes?-What's your way of seeing the world? What do you like to do?
- Make paper airplanes and fly them.
- Listen to music and pick out your favourite song. Make up a dance to go with it.
- Make a card by drawing your favourite thing to do on the front of the card. Give the card to someone you like. Remember to print your name in the card.