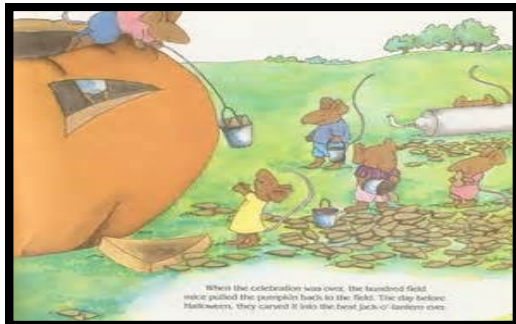




Share a book everyday to create a reader for a lifetime!



Title: The Biggest Pumpkin Ever

Author: Steven Kroll **Illustrator:** Jeni Bassett

Book Summary: One day two mice fall in love with the same pumpkin-but they don't know about each other. Both of them take care of it as it grows. What will happen when they meet?

Before Reading, use the following conversation starters to engage your child's interest in the book.

To teach prediction skills, before you begin reading the book, ask your child to look at the book cover. What does s/he think will happen in the story? Continue the conversation by asking why.

To promote active play, encourage your child to use his/her imagination to create a dance like the mice are doing on the cover of the book. Everybody join in the mouse dance!

During Reading, use the following ideas to keep your child actively engaged in the book sharing.

To build verbal skills, ask your child to describe the illustrations. Encourage him/her to notice the details of the pictures and describe them. After your child tells you what s/he sees, repeat the descriptions and add a few more details to work on new vocabulary.

To develop print awareness, explain to your child that the letters on the page represents sounds. Point out letters as you read and practice the sounds.

After Reading, use the following activities to extend your book sharing experience.

To encourage your child to work as part of a team, allow your child to assist you with household responsibilities. Ask your child to sort the clothes before you fold them. Include your child with dinner preparation. Let your child help create the grocery list.

To develop personal relevance in learning, help your child make a Growth Chart. Measure your child periodically and record his/her height. You could mark it lightly on a wall or door frame. Talk with your child about habits that will help him/her grow up healthy and strong.

To initiate active play, spend time with your child growing flowers or vegetables from seeds. Ask your child what s/he would like to plant. Talk with your child the care the new seeds will need to grow. As the seeds sprout, take pictures or draw illustrations of the plants as they grow.

Onslow County Partnership for Children



Together We Build Brighter Futures