



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



Title: Whistle for Willie

Written and Illustrated by Ezra Jack Keats

Book Summary: Willie wants to learn to whistle so his dog will run to him. He practices all day while he plays outside. Finally, he surprises his dog with a whistle!

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

To generate interest in the book, encourage your child to describe the cover. Ask what s/he thinks the book will be about from the cover's illustration.

To create relevant learning, talk with your child about the outdoor learning environment s/he is in. How is it like Peter's? How is it different than Peter's?

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

To develop vocabulary, discuss with your child any words that s/he might not be familiar with. For example, discuss what "whirled" and "scramble" mean and then act them out. Ask your child to use the new word in a sentence.

To build sequencing skills, review with your child what happens at the beginning, the middle, and the end of the story. Encourage your child to share any details s/he remembers from the story. Sequencing is an important skill in early literacy.

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

To stimulate conversation, ask your child open-ended questions about what s/he would like to learn to do. As your child's lifelong teacher, create opportunities for him/her to try new things.

To encourage outdoor play, take your child on a walk around your neighborhood like Peter. Encourage your child to skip, hop, jump or tiptoe. Talk about the way your neighborhood is similar to Peter's neighborhood and how it is different.

To encourage creativity, use sidewalk chalk to draw lines and shapes. You can create hopscotch designs or draw pictures of the birds and bugs your child sees outside.

Onslow County Partnership for Children



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