

Additional Read Aloud Fun from Raising Readers

Children fall in love with books because of the memories created when they snuggle up and read with someone they love.

There are many ways to read a book with your child. Here are some ideas to help your child understand the story better, learn something new, or just laugh a little louder. Don't worry if some of the ideas below don't work for you – the most important thing is to enjoy the story together! Happy Reading!

SING THE SONG

“Down by the Station” is an old nursery rhyme that can be either read or sung. Why sing? It makes words more fun! Need help with the music? Listen to the song at www.raisingreaders.org or make it up!

You can also make music by having your child clap to the repeated sounds. Clap with your child on the words: “Puff, puff, Toot, toot, Peep, peep...” and so on. When kids use their hands while singing or reading it helps them feel like part of the story.

LOOK CLOSELY

The illustrator, Will Hillenbrand, has put many fun things in the pictures that are not in the words. For example, watch the monkey on every page. He has a story all his own. After reading the book a few times, ask your child to follow the monkey. Ask what the monkey is doing. You can repeat this for all the animals or other things in the book, like the red balloon.

Every book has hidden treasures. The biggest treasure, of course, is the time you spend with your child reading together.

