

More Read-Aloud Fun from Raising Readers

Reading helps your child's brain grow in more ways than you can count. Here are some fun ways of reading that will help your child's brain to grow even stronger. Remember, there is no right or wrong way to read a book aloud. Just have fun!

HELP BOB

In this story Bob the rooster is just beginning to learn some new animal sounds. Your child may already know many of these sounds and will laugh when Bob tries to say "Cock-a-doodle-do." Even at three years of age, children can be very proud of what they have learned and your child will be proud to have learned something that Bob has not. Here's a game you and your child will enjoy playing and will help your child to develop good self esteem: Every time Bob meets a new animal and tries to learn a new sound, ask if that is the right sound. Then, tell your child how proud you are that she knows so many of the sounds and ask if she will help poor Bob learn his.

TALK ABOUT WORDS

Your three-year-old is collecting new words every day. There may be words in this book that he needs help understanding. Or there may be words that you can talk about that gives your child more information about the story and his world. For example, you could explain:

Bob is a **rooster** which is a male chicken. The "girls" in the book are **hens** or female chickens.

The hens lay eggs in the chicken **coop** or a small house for chickens. The rooster does his best to make sure no one bothers the hens when they are making their eggs.

The cows in the book **chew their cud**. When cows chew on their cud, they are chewing their food over and over. This helps the cow's stomach and helps them to produce better **milk**.

You can also explain a big word by using other easier words your child may know. For example, when you read the word **terrified**, you can say scared or frightened. You can also explain a word by acting it out. Act scared when you read the word terrified or speak softly when you use the word **whisper**.

MAKE SCRAMBLED EGGS

Making connections between things that happen in books and things that happen in your child's world will help your child to grow as a reader. Even though the book doesn't explain that the chickens lay eggs, if you look close you can see eggs hidden in the straw of the chicken coop. You can help your child to make a connection when you take eggs from the refrigerator to cook something. You could explain that the eggs were made by chickens like the ones in the book. Or, you could say: "If it were not for Bob and "the girls," we wouldn't have scrambled eggs!" When pouring a glass of milk you can help your child remember that delicious milk comes from cows chewing their cud.

*For more fun with Bob go to
www.raisingreaders.org/bookactivities*

Happy Reading!

