I get it! Building Comprehension

When it comes to reading, one of the most important things we can do for our children is helping them be good comprehenders. Keep in mind that the reason we read is not to sound out words but to understand what we read. By helping children to think about what they’re hearing or reading, we promote their understanding and connection to the text. We can do that in three important ways:

- **Help your child** connect to the text by thinking about how what they are hearing (or reading) relates to their own experiences. (That part reminds me of the time you baked cookies with Grandma.)

- **Help your child** connect the book you’re reading to a book you’ve read before. (This book makes me think about *The Snowy Day*. The boy in that book played in the snow, too!)

- **Help your child** connect the text to the world around you. (This book makes me wonder about what caterpillars really eat. I don’t think they eat birthday cake! What do you think?)

- **When you read**, always ask, “What does this book remind you of?”

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*Your child might also enjoy...*

- **Look Who’s There!** by Martine Perrin
- **Snug** by Carol Thompson
- **ABC Baby Me!** by Susan Katz
- **Everywhere Babies** by Susan Meyers

[Raising Readers’ 6-month selection for 2014](www.raisingreaders.org)