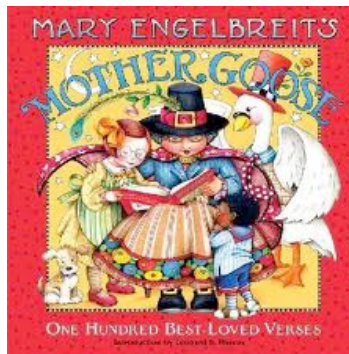


Practice and Read Again

Mother Goose

Retold and Illustrated by Mary Engelbreit



Description:

This is a collection of one hundred nursery rhymes illustrated by Mary Engelbreit. There will be many rhymes the children will be familiar with and many that will be brand new. How wonderful to discover old favorites while adding new rhymes to memory.

Connections:

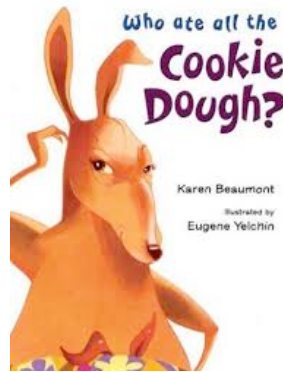
Inside the book, Ms. Engelbreit shares her thoughts on how and why she put this collection together. She talks about particular rhymes that are special to her or were especially hard to draw. By showing them to the children, they can connect to the author/illustrator.

Nursery rhymes are great additions to poetry notebooks. Many children have them memorized so they have samples of text to practice fluent reading.

Practice and Read Again

Who Ate All the Cookie Dough?

Written by Karen Beaumont...Illustrated by Eugene Yelchin



Description:

Mama Kangaroo is making cookies but the dough is gone. She questions each animal in a repeatable rhyme until the culprit is found...under Momma's apron.

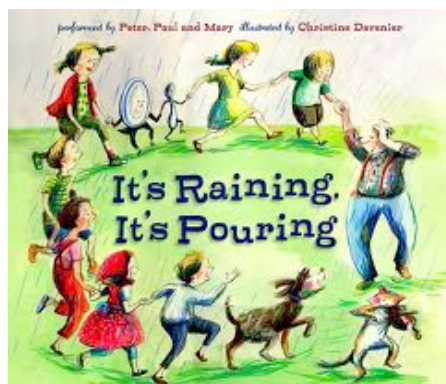
Connections:

"Lion, lion, do you know who ate all the cookie dough?" Lion says, "I don't know, it wasn't me. Maybe zebra, let's go see." Children will soon pick up on the rhythm and repeated text. Combine with picture clues and this becomes a book students can independently enjoy during Read to Self. A fun extension would be to replace animal names with classmate's names. Then the teacher could have on an apron with a stuffed animal hiding underneath for the surprise ending.

Practice and Read Again

It's Raining, It's Pouring

Performed by Peter, Paul and Mary...Illustrated by Christine Davenier



Description:

It's a party in a book. The text of several nursery rhymes...It's Raining, It's Pouring, Rain, Rain Go Away, Star Light, Star Bright, Hey Diddle-Diddle, Jack and Jill...are combined into one story and performed in an accompanying CD. Children will relish hearing and "reading" the familiar text through song over and over. The watercolor illustrations play an integral role by adding important details to the story. The song and illustrations work together to create a magical book.

Connections:

It can be an enjoyable change of pace to play a CD and let someone else do the reading, or in this case, the singing. Listening to this story once will not be enough. So many story details are represented through the artwork. Be sure to walk through the illustrations and invite the children to share what they notice before playing the CD a second time.

Adding this book and song to your listening center will give children more opportunities to "Practice and Read Again."

Practice and Read Again

Good News Bad News

Written and Illustrated by Jeff Mack



Description:

The news is out! The only words in this book are “Good news!” and “Bad news!” The story alternates between the “glass half full” bunny shouting, “Good news!” to the “glass half empty” mouse shouting, “Bad news!”

Connections:

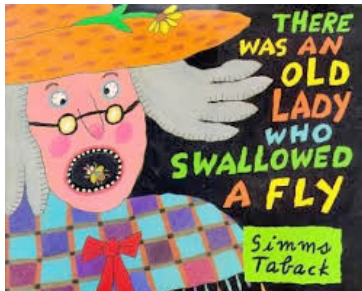
While the words remain constant, the story changes with the pictures as the characters reveal their “take” on the action. Bunny is thrilled with life, always looking for the positive while mouse feels that everything always goes wrong.

The limited text, but expressive pictures will give students who struggle with fluent reading a fighting chance to practice this skill and succeed. The entertaining story will provide motivation to read and reread. Now that is “Good news!”

Practice and Read Again

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly

Written and Illustrated by Simms Taback



Description:

The pattern is predictable but children never seem to tire of reading “An Old Lady Who Swallowed...” book.

Connections:

The Simms Taback version of the lady and the fly story is very reader friendly. Due to the die cut holes in the lady’s tummy we can actually see what she just ate. This gives the emergent reader pictures clues as they continue on with the story.

Be sure and sing the tune as your read. This will give students another hook to use when they read again. Ask the children if they can determine where to look for the next animal that the old lady will eat.

Helping students see the various patterns the author and illustrator include will also help during a retell. Be sure you take the time to just enjoy the book too. Ask the children what they notice and enjoy.