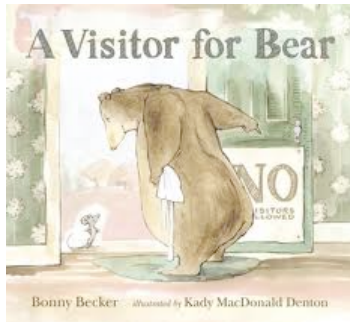


# Use Expression & Pacing

## A Visitor for Bear

Written by [Bonny Becker](#)...Illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton



### Description:

Bear enjoys alone time...so much so that he goes to great lengths to keep mouse out. Mouse is determined to make a new friend...bear. Will they ever get along?

### Connections:

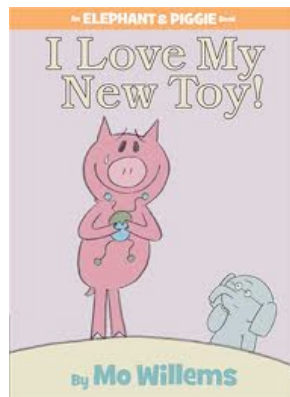
Bear and mouse are opposites; that makes it easier to read the dialogue between them with expression. Bear's voice is low and loud while mouse's voice is high and squeaky. Even the text itself shows expression by the font size. As the bear begins to shout, the words are large and bold on the page.

After the initial reading, go back and reread a page or two in a monotone voice. Ask the children which type of voice adds to the enjoyment of the story. Share with the children that one secret good readers use is to read with expression. Making up character voices is one way to do that and have some fun reading too.

# Use Expression & Pacing

## I Love My New Toy!

Written and Illustrated by Mo Willems



### Description:

Piggie has a new toy and wants to share it with her friend Gerald. The toy breaks after Gerald throws it in the air. Uh-oh.

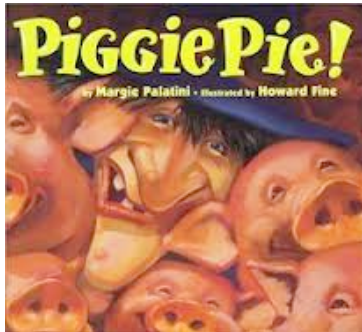
### Connections:

Mo Willems is a master. The expressions he creates on his characters faces with just a few lines is remarkable. Study the drawings with the children. Then point out how the size of the text changes within the talking bubbles. Discuss how you would make your voice match the large text and change it for the smaller text. Pick several lines from the story and have student practice their expression while reading with a partner.

# Use Expression & Pacing

## Piggie Pie!

Written by Margie Palatini...Illustrated by Howard Fine



### Description:

Gritch the Witch wants Piggie Pie for lunch. But where can she get some piggies? Off to Old MacDonald's farm.

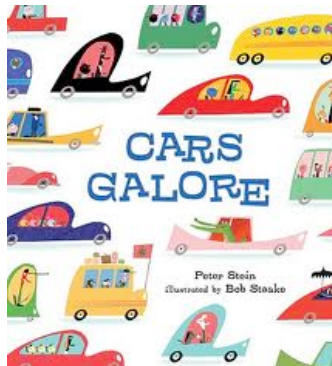
### Connections:

Find your cackling, "Wicked Witch of the West" voice and enjoy reading this book aloud to your students. Don't worry about the other character voices, the witch's voice is strong enough to carry the story. Just for giggles, I have the children practice their own witch voices by saying, "Where are the piggies? I need eight plump piggies for piggie pie!" Ask students to explain why we use voices for characters in stories.

# Use Expression & Pacing

## Cars Galore

Written by Peter Stein...Illustrated by Bob Staake



### Description:

This book is filled with short four-line poems about how cars move, the sounds that they make and places they travel.

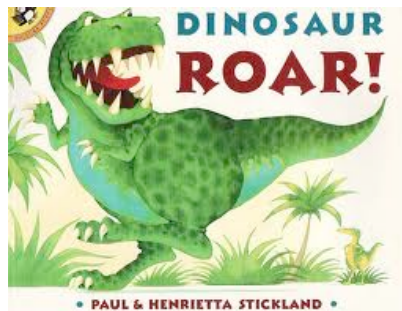
### Connections:

This book is a brilliant way to build a love of poetry in car lovers...they won't be able to resist. The poems provide natural opportunities to read slowly, then speed up with the cars. Exclamation marks abound which support variances in expression. Point out to children that expression and pacing is not reserved just for dialogue between characters but can be used with any text.

# Use Expression & Pacing

## DINOSAUR ROAR!

Written and Illustrated by Paul & Henrietta Stickland



### Description:

Opposites and rhyming words are used to characterize dinosaurs in this book. Along with expressive illustrations, there are about two words per page. The book ends with dinosaurs eating their lunch, “gobble, gobble, nibble, nibble, munch, munch, scrunch.”

### Connections:

This book shows that you can pack a lot of expression in just a few words. Children will enjoy echoing the text as it is being read.

There are many other strategy connections that can be made with this book too. Children can use beginning sounds in combination with pictures to decode the unknown word. The words “fierce” and “meek” may be new and interesting for the students. Be sure and look for the dinosaur eating the last letter in the book.

# Use Expression & Pacing

## We Are Brothers

Written by Yves Nadon...Illustrated by Jean Claverie



### Description:

We Are Brothers, is a delightful story about overcoming fear. It's the younger brother's turn to jump off the rock into a lake. Can he do it with the help of his brother?

### Connections:

This book provides an opportunity to show expression in a quiet, subdued manner. Whisper the words on the pages: "I am cat." "I am bird." "I am fish." This gives the children a chance to see a different style of delivery. Discuss how it made them feel and whether it added to the story. Read the book again and have the children join in with the whispers.