



## Putting the pieces together: A checklist for turning book reading into a conversation

Review the following checklist to ensure that you are encouraging conversation during reading.

- I read to the children in a comfortable location
- I make sure that every child can see the pages of the book, including the illustrations
- I position the children so I can see each of them and they can see me
- I set aside enough time so we can have a good discussion about the book
- I select books that are developmentally appropriate, with interesting topics and appealing illustrations
- I read with animation and expression and use props when appropriate
- I make time during the day to read to small groups
- I pause frequently when I am reading a story to observe the children's reactions
- I wait expectantly to give the children a chance to say or do something
- I listen carefully to the children's comments and questions
- I follow the children's lead and make comments or ask questions based on what they say
- I Strive for 5 to keep topics going back and forth between myself and the children for at least five turns
- I ask questions that children *can* and *want* to answer so the conversation will continue
- I use Think-Pair-Share to encourage interaction
- I carefully observe how involved and engaged each child is throughout the book reading
- I adapt my response to each child to encourage the involvement of all the children