

Instructions

To the reader,

Whether you are a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling, or other caregiver, reading is an important way to connect with your child and foster the development of language.

This book is designed to help you engage your child and encourage them to be an active participant in story time rather than just a passive listener.

As you read to your child, take notice of the smaller writing at the bottom of each page; these are notes for you. Ask your child one or more of these questions based on their current verbal abilities. If you ask your child one of these questions and they answer the question correctly, CELEBRATE (high-five, fist bump, clap, tell them "awesome job!", do a little dance, etc.)! If they do not answer the question or answer incorrectly, show/tell them the correct answer and move on. These are not formal teaching sessions, so don't feel the need to make your child answer; you are simply bonding and having fun with the added benefit of learning.

The questions in this book are categorized based on the VB-MAPP (Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement program). The 3 developmental levels identified by the VB-MAPP are Level 1 (0-18 months), level 2 (18-30 months), and level 3 (30-48 months) and include the following categories:

- Echoic: Your child repeats/imitates your words/signs.
- Listener Responding (Receptive): Your child identifies the correct image in the book with a gesture (i.e. pointing)
- Tact (Expressive): Your child identifies the image with the verbal word or sign.
- Intraverbal: Your child can answer a question related to the page without the answer being on the page.

When your child has learned the answers to all of the questions, add some of your own! Remember, reading and learning should always be fun!

Reference

Sundberg, M. L. (2074). The verbal behavior milestones assessment and placement program: The VB-MAPP (2nd ed.). Concord, CA: AVB Press.