



High Impact Home Strategies

Strategy #2

When Reading with your Child: Characters Matter - Outside and Inside

For Pre-School to Kindergarten, try to spend most of your time reading **TO** your child.

For 1st grade to 5th grade, spend time reading both **TO** and **WITH** your child.

After connecting in a special time, special place, and with a special story, try on this **High Impact Home Strategy**:



Connect at a Special Time Each Day



Connect in a Special Place



Connect through Media and Text



Connect through Interaction

Your Child's Learning Goal

Before, during, and after reading to your child, take time to talk about the characters in the books you read together. Remember to share about the characters thoughts, how they act, and what they are saying. Get into the mind of the characters, this helps your child understand who the characters are.

Characters Think:

Let's talk about the characters thoughts!

- What are the characters thinking?*
- Why do you think the characters are thinking this?*
- Did the characters thinking change?*
- What could have made the characters thinking change?*

Characters Act:

Let's talk about what the characters are doing!

- How are the characters acting?*
- How are the characters acting with others?*
- Why are the characters behaving and doing certain things?*

Characters Talk:

Let's talk about what the characters are saying!

- What do the characters say?*
- Do the characters say things you connect with?*
- Do the characters say things that make you feel a certain way?*



Celebrate your child's responses

It is important to validate your child's thinking and interests. Give your child ample time to think about and respond to your questions. Remember, there may not always be a right or wrong answer, just one that can be supported with evidence from the text or the pictures.