



Comprehension & Vocabulary

Comprehension is the ability to understand what we read. **Vocabulary** and background knowledge are the building blocks of comprehension.

Talk, talk, and talk some more to help your child explore ideas, build their knowledge of the world, and learn the meanings of many new words. These early experiences will help your child have strong reading comprehension in later years.

With strong comprehension, reading can become a tool for learning!

Try these fun activities at home or on the go!

Talk About Words and Ideas Use new words to describe things! For example, if you're talking about feeling tired, use the words *exhausted* and *fatigued*.

Look for interesting topics to talk about. Let your child be the guide. Young children are curious, and they ask a lot of questions. Even if you don't know the answer, talk about it. Look for answers in books or online.

Before, During, and After Before reading a book together, look at the cover and think about the story.

Adult What do you think will happen in this story?

Child They will have a picnic.

During the story, stop to talk about it.

Adult What might happen next?

Child She might eat their food.

Adult Let's keep reading to find out.

After reading, ask for your child's ideas about the story.

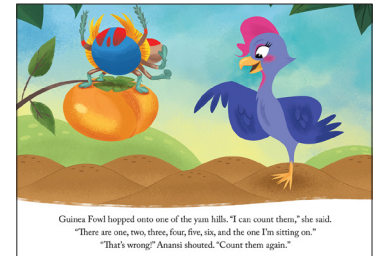
Child What was your favorite part?

Adult My favorite part was when the bears came home.

You can also find lots of read-aloud videos for children's books online! Try reading Waterford's version of [Goldilocks and the Three Bears](#).

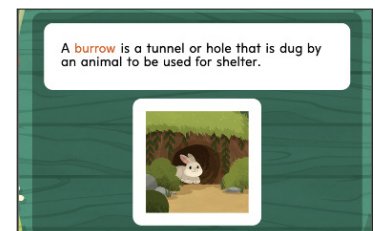


Before reading *The Little Monkey*, your child sorts statements that tell about a monkey, an elephant, or both.



Guinea Fowl hopped onto one of the yam hills. "I can count them," she said. "There are one, two, three, four, five, six, and the one I'm sitting on." "That's wrong" Anansi shouted. "Count them again."

After reading *Anansi and the Seven Yam Hills*, your child describes the characters.



Before reading, word meanings are introduced with child-friendly definitions.

View example activities and more → [here!](#)