

## Strategies you can use to solve difficult words

Look for clues in the pictures.  
Look at the beginning and ending sounds. What word might make sense? Try it out.

Look at the first sound and say whatever word comes into your mind; sometimes the right word will just pop into your head.

Sound it out.

Look for parts that you know.  
Look for smaller words in the larger, difficult words.

Go back and re-read the sentence, looking for clues.

Does your word make sense?

Does your word sound right?

Does your word look right?

Leave the word out and read ahead to the end of the sentence. What word might make sense?

## After Reading Discussion Starters

Retell the story in your own words.

That story reminded me of...

The author surprised me at the end when...

I'm still wondering about...

That was funny/sad when...

Do you think the author chose a good title?  
Why? Why not?

That character made me think of...

Who were the characters in the story? Do they remind you of anyone you know?

Where did the story take place? Have you ever visited somewhere like that?

Look at the words that may have caused difficulty. Talk about letter associations "What other words start like "shout"?"

## Reading Strategies Workshop

Helping children get more bang from their books



*Rockland Public School.*

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## BEFORE READING



### Look at the front cover:

Discuss any interesting pictures.

What do you already know about the topic of this book/story?

Have you ever had any experiences similar to those on the cover?

What do you think the book will be about? (predict)

Who is the author/illustrator? Have you read any other books by this author?

## INSIDE THE FRONT COVER

Are there designs inside the front cover?  
How do you think the designs will connect to the book?

Are there dedications? What is a dedication?

Take a picture walk through the book and make predictions about the story.



## DURING READING



**Don't stop for so long that the child loses momentum of reading.**

Point out details in pictures "Oh that looks really cold..."

Talk about how an illustrator helps tell the story. React personally to illustrations or what happens to characters.

Wonder about characters and events in the story "Oh I wonder what she will do now!"

See humour in situations in stories.

Figure out what the character is like and predict what he/she might do next.

**Bringing them back if they get off topic...**

Let's find out what happens in the story now.

Lets talk about that at the end of the story.