PLAYING WITH PRINT

Cut-Up Sentences

Why?

When you help children work with cut-up sentences, you

• help them understand sentence structure.
• demonstrate the connection between the written and spoken word.
• show that text reads from left to right.

How?

1. Introduce the book, discussing the title, author, illustrator, and cover.
2. Read the book with your child and discuss the story.
3. Have your child choose his or her favorite sentence from the story or make up a sentence about the story.
4. Write the sentence on a paper strip.
5. Have your child read the sentence. As he or she reads each word, cut it off the strip.
6. Scramble the words.
7. Have your child put the sentence in order and read it to check for mistakes.
8. If you wish, glue the sentence on a piece of paper and invite your child to illustrate it.

Materials:

• book
• paper strips
• pencils or pens
• scissors
• glue (optional)
• paper (optional)
• crayons (optional)

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