

# Tips for Reading Aloud

## COMPREHENSION

Comprehension is the difference between simply saying the words and understanding the words as they work together to create a message. Good readers need to understand the words and the story they convey, apply them to their own personal experiences and make that information their own. We can help students work through this process by the thoughtful questions we interject before, during and after the reading. Some examples of questions include:

1. Review the cover and back of the book and predict what might happen.
2. During the story, ask the student what he/she thinks the character will do next or why they made a particular decision.
3. After the story, ask simple questions whose answers are found directly in the text as well as questions that require the reader to pull together information from more than one place in the text.
4. Share an experience you have had that ties in with the story and encourage the student to relate to the story in a similar manner.

Students need to engage themselves in the story and apply it to themselves in order to make the content meaningful. We can help them make the leap from just saying the words correctly to understanding and owning the information by a few thoughtful comments and questions as we share the book with our young readers.

