

This book has just a few words on each page, making it a good one to help draw attention to print. This can help children begin to distinguish print from pictures.

### CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES

### INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES

#### COMMUNICATE



#### Children will:

- ◆ Recognize pictures and symbols/signs/words

#### Teachers will:

- ◆ Notice and comment on print

### TEACHING TIP

Young children overwhelmingly ignore the print within books and focus their gaze and attention on pictures. However, the contact that children have with print while reading can benefit their literacy development. Small shifts in behavior, such as commenting on the print versus pictures within a book, can significantly boost their focus and interest on print.

### 1. INTRODUCE

- ◆ “This book is called *Little Penguins*. As I read the book, we are going to look at where the pictures are and where the words are on each page.”

### 2. READ THE BOOK

- ◆ Pause 3-5 times during reading to ask children to show you the ‘words on the page’ or show you the picture on the page.
- ◆ Comment on the difference between the print and pictures.

#### Notice and Comment on Print

**Read:** “And matching scarves.”

**Ask:** “Can you find the picture on the page?”

**Comment:** “Yes! This is the picture (*point*) and here are the words (*point*). The picture shows us the penguins’ scarves. And the words tell us about them.”

**Read:** “Deeper. Very deep.”

**Ask:** “Show me where the words are.”

**Comment:** “Yes! Here are the words (*point*) and this is the picture (*point*). The picture shows us the deep snow. And the words tell us about it.”

**Read:** “Jammies on. Warm cookies, please?”

**Ask:** “Where are the words on this page?”

**Comment:** “Yes! Here are the words (*point*) and this is the picture (*point*). The picture shows us the penguins waiting for cookies. And the words tell us about it.”

### 3. REVIEW

- ◆ “We looked at the words and the pictures in this book.”

### 4. KEEP IT GOING

- ◆ Environmental print is everywhere! Notice and comment on the print that you see across the day, whether it is in books, on the walls/bulletin boards, or even on toys or toy boxes. For example, when hanging up their coat, draw attention to their name written by their cubby. Drawing children’s attention to print will help their growing understanding that print is useful and important.