

This book is about a child who sees how big or how small they are compared to everything around them. The story lends itself to making size comparisons.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES

INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES

Children will:

Teachers will:

THINK-MATH



- ◆ Understand comparison language specific to size
- ◆ Make size comparisons

- ◆ Prompt children to compare objects (measure)
- ◆ Use measurement words

TEACHING TIP

Young children see themselves as smaller or bigger than what is around them. They may compare themselves to their peers, family members, or objects in their world. We can encourage their interest in measurement by modeling comparison language like, “You’re taller than the table,” or “I’m shorter than Abuelo.” We can provide children with lots of opportunities daily to practice measuring and comparing the world around them.

1. INTRODUCE

- ◆ “Everywhere you look, you see that some things are bigger than you, and some things are smaller than you. In the story, *So Big and So Small*, a child explores the world around them by comparing their size to everything in sight.”

2. READ THE BOOK

- ◆ Pause occasionally to narrate the different comparisons the child makes with the world around them.
- ◆ Ask children to make comparisons within the story and their own environment.

Prompt Children to Compare Objects (Measure)

Read: “I’m gigantic compared to a seashell”

Narrate: “Look at the child’s size and the seashell. They have to bend low to the sand to touch it because it’s so small. They are much bigger than the shell.”

Ask: “Look around you. Is there anything that you’re bigger than? Yes! (Child) said they are bigger than the book. You can hold this book in my hands. It is smaller than you.”

Read: “But when I go to the zoo, I’m so small”

Narrate: “The child sees different animals of all sizes. They see a lion, giraffe, and an elephant. These animals are bigger than the child. Which one looks largest?”

Ask: “What else on the page is the boy smaller than? Can you find something that you are smaller than?”

Read: “I’m tiny by an oak tree, a waterfall”

Narrate: “The child is shorter than the tree, and the waterfall is wider than the child.”

Ask: “Can you think of something that is taller or wider than you are? What might you see outside that is taller than you?”

3. REVIEW

- ◆ “The child in the story compared their size with what was around them. Some things were bigger, and some were smaller. I wonder how big or small you will feel compared to what you see inside and outside today.”

4. KEEP IT GOING

- ◆ Provide opportunities for children to explore your learning environment and compare themselves to what is big/small. Use measurement words to help children understand and make comparisons. You can use yourself as an example and stand next to something large or small (e.g., “I am shorter than the building, but taller than the seesaw”). Let children explore with their surroundings and ask them about what they see (e.g., “Are you bigger than that ladybug?”).