Making Read Alouds Interactive

Purpose: Children gain a love of reading on the laps of their parents! Reading aloud provides many opportunities to model and explain what good readers do as they read. Reading aloud provides exposure to the following...

- fluent reading
- different types of books
- new vocabulary
- modeled comprehension

What makes the Read Aloud Interactive?
At school, teachers select books that provide opportunities to model a specific reading strategy. The read aloud lesson plan is designed to define and model the strategy for all students and provides them opportunities to practice the strategy with a partner and as a group. (This method modeled at the event)

At home, a parent or child will select a book for enjoyment or interest. Parents can take any opportunity to model what good readers do as they read. The handout for the evening includes reading skills that can be modeled while reading aloud.

When to Stop and What to Model

Before reading the book
- Read the title and preview the cover illustrations. Predict whether the book will tell true facts or a story (non-fiction or fiction).
- Wonder and predict what might happen in the book.
- Connect the topic of the book to things your child knows or has experienced.

During Reading
- Point out anything occurring in the pictures that help a reader to understand the book.
- Point out and explain the meaning of unknown words that are important to the book. Give examples of the meaning of the word related to the topic of the book.
- Point out and model how we use punctuation and print features to adjust voice, volume and tone when reading.
- Model and encourage predicting what will happen next while reading.
- Model and encourage making connections between the reading and prior experiences.
- Model and encourage how to check for understanding as you read by rereading or retelling what has already happened

After Reading
- Go back through the pictures of the book and retell the book.
- Discuss favorite parts or a special or funny event that happened in the book.
- Connect the book to prior experiences.