

Oral Language Opportunities and Student Discussion Questions:

Provide students with Oral Language opportunities

Questions to foster oral language using any books read by teacher or students: - Retell the story (with beginning, middle, and end) (Eventually with the main character, setting, and event) - Pick 2 stories that you have read and compare them. How are they the same? How are they different? - Change the story in some way: "I wonder if..." - What would the story be like if it was told by another character in the book? - Do any stories remind you of something that happened to you? - Do any stories remind you of anything that happened to your friends or family?

Student Discussion Questions for each of the Long Vowel stories can be used in whole class discussions, partner sharing, or written responses. The questions encourage imagination and use of previous knowledge. They reinforce communication and cooperation skills by: sharing personal ideas as well as responding to others' ideas, listening and taking turns, explaining a reason for an opinion, and answering in complete sentences.

When the student is forming an explanation, it requires them to decide upon the appropriate words for self-expression and then determine if the audience understands. It reinforces that an explanation should not begin with 'because', since there needs to be a phrase beforehand to establish the topic. Eventually, other responses about the topic can be developed (alternating between further explaining the topic and answers which need to include 'because').

Student Discussion Questions for each story:

- **Book 1 I Hope Magic 'e' Will Hop In!**

- List other games that need a ball.
- Tim was late for his baseball game. Why do you think he was late?

- **Book 2 Magic 'e' Day at School**

- The cake was in the shape of letter 'e'. What other shapes can cakes be?
- If they left out a plate of nuts for the birds, who else might eat the nuts?

- **Book 3 The Big Boys Make Lunch**

- What is your Mom's favourite thing to eat?
- What are some snacks that you would like to make?

- **Book 4 Hide the Dice**

- What is your favourite game that you like to play with your friends? Why do you like playing it?

- What are some songs you can sing with a friend?
- Can you sing them quickly or slowly while facing each other without laughing?

- **Book 5 The Great Paper Cake**

- Which is your favourite stuffed toy? Why is it your favourite?
- What else can be made out of paper?

- **Book 6 They Wanted to Paint**

- If you could choose an instrument to play, which would it be? Why?
- Where would you like a super dog to fly you? Why there?

- **Book 7 Bouncing, Bouncing**

- What other animals/insects can bounce or hop?
- Was there a day when you felt very tired? What had you done that made you tired?

- **Book 8 Don't Worry!**

- Who might need a map? Why?
- What are some things that kids your age might worry about?

- **Book 9 Were There Many Animals?**

- What could you make with a big empty box?
- What animal makes the best pet: a cat or a dog? Why is it the best?

- **Book 10 George and Fudge**

- Think of some Magic words that George could have said.
- What could happen after his Mom sneezed while he was saying the new magic spell?

- **Book 11 Freddie's Magic Glasses**

- What story would you like to fall into? What would you do when you fell in it?
- If you had to choose between magic glasses or magic shoes, which would you choose? Why?

- **Book 12 Small Kids, Tall Ideas!**

- List some places where you would see cone shapes. What are they used for?
- Would you like ice cream in a cone or in a bowl? Why?

- **Book 13 The Soccer Game**

- What other ways could you form different teams?
- If a team had 12 feet in all, which animals could be on it?

- **Book 14 What Should We Name the Puppies?**

- What other games can be played in a school yard?
- Which is your favourite game to play? Why?

- **Book 15 The Smile Store**

- What do you do when you want to make someone smile?

- How do you feel when you make them smile?
- Have you played the game "Who will smile first"? If you did play it, who would you play it with?

- **Book 16 Two Knights and a Dragon**

- What funny joke would you tell the dragon to make him laugh?
- Do you know of another action chant or song? If you do know one, teach it to someone. If you don't know one, ask someone to teach you theirs!

Provide Students with Oral Language Opportunities with Chants, Rhymes, Poems, and Songs.

Children love to sing and chant rhymes. Studies have shown that singing as a class fosters group cooperation in all areas of social interaction. There are many children's camp songs that are available online. Reading songs and rhymes is a fun way to provide a reading experience. Send home the lyrics of class songs as a reading assignment!

Clapping chants and action songs get their young bodies moving.

One clapping chant that would go well with Bk 14 (What Should We Name the Puppies?) is about ice cream. The chant is:

Double, double, ice, ice

Double, double, cream, cream

Double ice, double cream

Double, double, ice cream!

Instructions: Partners face each other. Whenever they say "Double", they clap their own hands together. When they say "ice", they clap their 2 hands to their partner's 2 hands. When they say "cream" they clap the BACK of their hands to the back of their partner's hands. (They have to concentrate in the middle when there is just 1 clap for each. The last line is fun, since it has 2 claps of their own hands, then 1 clap with their partner's flat hands and 1 clap using the back of their hands.) As they get better, they can say it faster and faster!

In Book 16, there is the chant of: "*Toes, toes, knees, knees, hip, hip, hurray!*" We would sing it as a cheer to a Birthday child. (Touch your toes, knees, and hips, then jump in the air for Hurray!)