Shared Reading

The following sequence of day-by-day activities is offered as a suggested format for focused instruction with appropriately selected shared books. A book being presented to your class should be a "new" one for the kids, one that will allow for prediction of the story line. It should be presented with enthusiasm on a daily basis. Monday through Thursday sessions should last from 10 to 15 minutes at the most. Allow for a longer period on Friday, even up to two hours, depending on the planned response to the book.

Monday:

The initial sharing of a new story. (The main purpose is enjoyment.)

Discuss the title, author and illustrations on the front cover, inviting predictions from the children.

Read the story, focusing the children's attention on each new illustration and continue to ask predictive questions.

Try not to interrupt the flow of the story.

Tuesday:

Reread the story, encouraging the children to join in on repetitive parts. Focus the children's attention on any new vocabulary.

Wednesday:

Reread the story, encouraging the children to join in with the entire reading. Focus on some print conventions.

Thursday:

The story will now be very familiar.

Reread the story together, experimenting with intonation and expression.

Focus on some further print conventions or other targets in language areas.

Friday:

Respond to the story in some way.

This could be a written, oral, or visual response.

Each shared book will lend itself to a different response.

