






# CONQUERING KINDERGARTEN STORYTIME SIDEKICK

**Books are a great way to teach reading and social-emotional learning (SEL) skills.**

Here is how you can support children as you read books together:

1. Ask open-ended questions about the SEL skill in the book.
2. Respond to children’s answers and build on them to start a conversation.
3. Connect the SEL skill in the book to real experiences in children’s lives.

Try the strategy above with the story *The Berenstain Bears Catch the Bus*. In this book, children see the value of the SEL skill Completes Work on Time, as they hear about Brother and Sister Bear trying to make sure they are on time for the bus. After reading the story, follow the steps below.

GUIDE	 <b>1 ASK A QUESTION</b>	 <b>2 RESPOND AND EXTEND</b>	 <b>3 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE</b>
	EXAMPLE	<p><b>You say:</b></p> <p><i>Why did Brother and Sister Bear have to rush to make the bus?</i></p>	<p><b>Child says:</b></p> <p><i>They were sleeping!</i></p> <p><b>You say:</b></p> <p><i>That’s right. They slept too late and didn’t wake up on time.</i></p>



## Want more examples of this strategy?

	<b>1 ASK A QUESTION</b>	<b>2 RESPOND AND EXTEND</b>	<b>3 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>EXAMPLE 1</b>	<b>You say:</b> <i>What did Brother and Sister Bear have to do after they woke up?</i>	<b>Child says:</b> <i>Brush their teeth.</i> <b>You say:</b> <i>Yes, and they had to brush their teeth and eat breakfast quickly.</i>	<b>You say:</b> <i>What do you have to do in the morning to get ready for school?</i>
<b>EXAMPLE 2</b>	<b>You say:</b> <i>Why was Mama Bear mad at Brother and Sister?</i>	<b>Child says:</b> <i>Because they were still sleeping!</i> <b>You say:</b> <i>Exactly! They were still asleep and were going to miss the bus to school.</i>	<b>You say:</b> <i>How does it make you feel when you are running late?</i>



## What else can you do to teach the skill in this book?

**Begin to teach children about time.** Children learn about time by seeing routines during the day. By helping children understand their routines, we can teach them about completing work within a certain part of the day. One way to do this is by making a chart of a daily routine with pictures and posting it in a spot where children can easily see it.

## Want to learn more about this strategy?

Research shows that reading and talking with children about books helps them build both reading and SEL skills. To get the most out of each book, read it again to support children’s understanding.

It is also helpful to make real-time connections between children’s experiences and the books they know. Point out when you see something in your real life that reminds you of a book.

Conquering Kindergarten aims to help families and teachers support children’s development of 14 key SEL skills through evidence-based tools. For more tips, book recommendations, and reading guides, **visit [CKPhilly.org](http://CKPhilly.org)**.



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