



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 *Waiting is Not Forever!* In this book, children see the value of the SEL skill Makes Appropriate Movement Between Activities, as they learn that while waiting can be frustrating, they can use strategies to control their frustration and make waiting fun. After reading the story, follow the steps below.

GUIDE	 1 ASK A QUESTION	 2 RESPOND AND EXTEND	 3 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE
	EXAMPLE	<p>You say:</p> <p><i>What was one of the things you saw the children in the story waiting to do?</i></p>	<p>Child says:</p> <p><i>Waiting their turn.</i></p> <p>You say:</p> <p><i>I remember that. We saw children waiting for their turn to use with something.</i></p>



Want more examples of this strategy?

	1 ASK A QUESTION	2 RESPOND AND EXTEND	3 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE
EXAMPLE 1	You say: We saw in the book that waiting can be <u>frustrating</u> , which is when you feel annoyed. Why do you think waiting was annoying for the children?	Child says: Because they wanted something right now. You say: Exactly! It can make you mad or frustrated to wait when you want to do something right away.	You say: Can you think of a time when waiting made you feel frustrated? What did you do?
EXAMPLE 2	You say: What was one thing the children in the book did to feel better when they had to wait?	Child says: Used their eyes and ears! You say: Yes, they used their eyes and ears to look at and listen to things around them.	You say: Think of a time when you had to wait. What are some things that you did to help make waiting easier?



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

Develop a Daily Routine. When children know their daily routines, it can make changing activities easier. Knowing what is next helps children get ready to move from one activity to another. One way you can help children prepare for activity changes is by making a picture chart of a routine. Post the chart 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**.



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