






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 *Library Lily*. In this book, children see the value of the SEL skill Shows Positive Attitude Towards Learning, as they hear about a girl named Lily who loves to read. 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>How did Lily feel about books?</i></p>	<p>Child says:</p> <p><i>She loved them.</i></p> <p>You say:</p> <p><i>That's right. She loved books and spent lots of her time reading.</i></p>



Want more examples of this strategy?

	★ 1 ASK A QUESTION	★ 2 RESPOND AND EXTEND	★ 3 CONNECT TO EXPERIENCE
EXAMPLE 1	<p>You say: <i>How did Milly's feelings about books change after she met Lily?</i></p>	<p>Child says: <i>She liked them.</i></p> <p>You say: <i>Yes! Milly didn't like to read at first because she thought it was boring. Lily showed her how much fun books can be.</i></p>	<p>You say: <i>Can you think of something that you thought would be boring that turned out to be fun?</i></p>
EXAMPLE 2	<p>You say: <i>Lily was <u>enthusiastic</u> about reading, which means she was excited to read. What was Milly enthusiastic about?</i></p>	<p>Child says: <i>Exploring.</i></p> <p>You say: <i>I agree. Milly was enthusiastic about exploring and adventures.</i></p>	<p>You say: <i>What is something that you are enthusiastic to do or learn about?</i></p>



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

Ask questions. One easy way to encourage a positive attitude toward learning is by asking children questions about what new things they learned that day. Ask children to share something that they found interesting and share how learning about it made them feel. If they can't think of something new that they learned, ask them to share something they are curious to learn more about in the future.

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**.



Follow us on Twitter
[@PHLKindergarten](https://twitter.com/PHLKindergarten)



Find us on Facebook
[PHLKindergarten](https://www.facebook.com/PHLKindergarten)



Follow us on Instagram
[Conqueringkindergarten](https://www.instagram.com/Conqueringkindergarten)