



Introducing the Book

**Eliciting Prior Knowledge
Building Background**
*Sometimes called "Intro", "Before
Reading" or "Pre-reading"*

Relate the children's or your own experiences to the book theme.

Introduce the book through activities based on the children's interests and enjoyment.

Discuss similar situations which can be related to the book. Share similar situations that have happened to you.

Into

Exploring the Cover
*Stimulating interest
and curiosity in the book.*

Present vocabulary that affects the comprehension of the story.

Discuss the cover of the book.

Introduce the author and illustrator.

Ask the children to make predictions based on the illustrated cover and title.

Through

Reading the Book
*Sometimes called
"Through" or "Reading"*

Read the book to the group, pausing only to analyze certain passages or to verify children's understanding of more difficult vocabulary.

Encourage students to join in if the story has a repetition of phrases or a predictable pattern.

Beyond

Discussing the Book
*Sometimes called
"Beyond" or "Post-reading"*

Allow the students to discuss the story in a risk-free environment.

Ask students open-ended critical thinking questions. (See suggestions below.)

Feel free to get creative! Make a poster, sing songs, perform plays, write letters to the author, share yourself!

Suggested critical thinking questions:

1. What did **you** think about the story?
2. Did the story work out the way you thought it would?
3. How did the characters change from beginning to end?
4. How did the characters or the story change your own thinking?
5. What was special about this story that made it important to you?
6. Does it remind you of another story?
7. What do you think about the way the story was illustrated, written?
8. Do you have any questions you would like to ask about this story?
9. Would you recommend this story to someone else?
10. Is there anything else you would like to say about this story?

** Note: If you hadn't previously discussed the story with the classroom teacher give her/him a synopsis of the story and its theme to allow her/him the opportunity to plan follow-up activities.