

# CONCEPTS OF PRINT

## Lesson Focus and Goals:

- What is a letter?
- What is a word?
- Top vs. Bottom
- Direction we read

## Materials Recommended:

Picture books (the more the better).

## Important Notes/Tricks:

Exposure to actual books will enhance their understanding of the skills.

## Activities and Lessons Included:

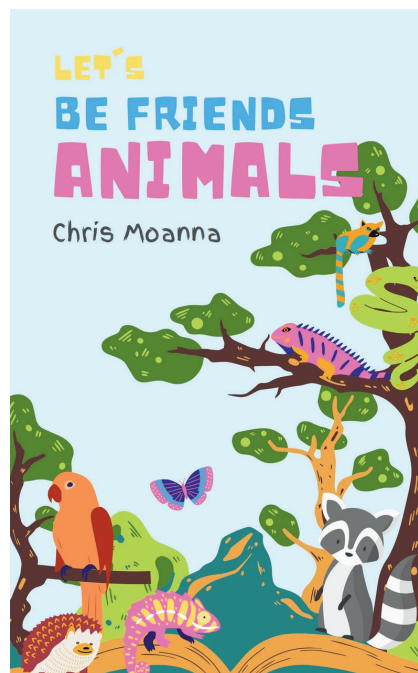
1. Teach your child how to determine the front and the back of a book. Teach them to hold it so that the words are facing upwards.
2. Teach the difference between a letter and a word. A letter is on its own. Most words are a combination of more than one letter. (They don't need to know letter names yet.)
3. Teach your child the direction we read words - having them use their finger from left to right over a sentence.

**Assessment:** Have your child practice all of the concept of text skills taught using a book of their choosing.

Parents: Read the following instructions to your child. Practice this with several books you have at home to be sure they have mastered how to hold a book.

You may want to let them pick one to have your read aloud to them after a few practices to make it more enjoyable (:

When we read books, it is important that we are holding them the correct way. Look at the following pictures and circle or color the books that are facing the correct way. We always want to start a book with it facing upwards with the cover of the book at the front.



Parents: Read the following instructions to your child.

One of the first steps to learning to read is understanding what a letter is. A letter is a single symbol that represents a speech sound.

Some examples of letters are:

a D p U x r H F

Do you see how a letter is just one symbol by itself? Words are made when several letters are combined together to create meaning.

For this activity, you are going to color over all of the single letters (do not color any that are words (with multiple letters)).

B s cat j

she u he F

L up fun p

come s k M

Parents: Read the following instructions to your child. Practice this skill with several books you have at home to be sure they have mastered letters verses words.

As you read aloud a fun book of their choice stop occasionally (only 1-2 times per page) and ask them to point to a single letter or to use their finger to circle a word.

Know that you have learned what letters are, we are going to start learning about words. A word is a combination of sounds that have meaning. We use words all the time when we speak. We are now going to learn how to find written words.

In this activity, color over all of the single letters with red and all of the words with green.

fit n shut T

her us e B

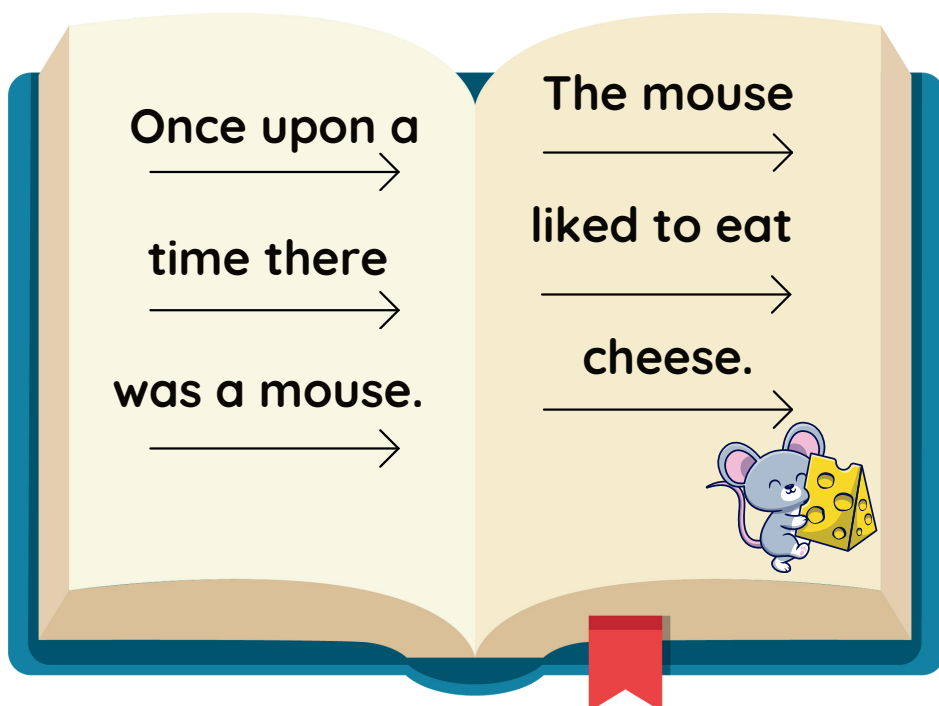
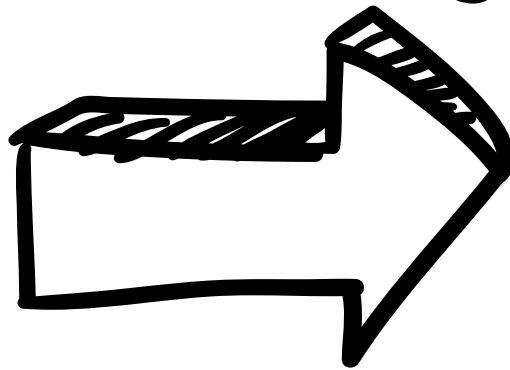
Z van hi w

R sleep kite o

# Which way do we read words?



In English we read words from the left to the right.



**Activity:**  
Practice pointing to the words in a book you have at home from left to right.

Parents: Read the following instructions to your child. They do not need to read any words, just decide which arrows show the correct reading direction.


Practice this skill with several books you have at home to be sure they have mastered the direction we read.

When we read books it is important that we always start by reading at the top of the page. From there we read books moving from the left side to the right side. Once your finish reading the top row from left to right, you will then read the second row from left to right. You would continue this pattern until you have read the page.

Circle the sentences where the arrows are showing the correct way to read the words.

1 My dog was very happy today.  


2 The turtle moved very slowly.  


3 My mom asked me to clean my room.  


4 I like to eat popcorn and  
watch movies  
  


5 I like playing football  
outside with my friends.  
