

READ Guide: *Noah's Family Farm*

Ages: Birth - 2 Years Old

Why do we READ?

READ is a way to have meaningful conversations with a child around a book to build language and vocabulary, promote critical thinking, and nurture relationships with your child.

R - REPEAT THE BOOK

When we repeat books with children, we give them the opportunity to hear vocabulary words several times, explore the main idea, focus on key events in the story and talk about the emotions of the characters. As we encourage children to become storytellers, we give them the chance to hear and use language related to the story. By doing this, you engage in meaningful conversations and help children build language and vocabulary, nurture critical thinking. You help create powerful, determined learners and empathetic problem-solvers.

E - ENGAGE AND ENJOY

When we keep children engaged in a book, they are more likely to learn the vocabulary we are trying to teach and to participate in conversations about the book. Infants participate through smiling, cooing and through eye contact. Enjoy acting out and explaining **vocabulary** from *Noah's Family Farm* to your child. Change your tone to show emotion and use a joyful, nurturing tone while reading. Use gestures, actions, and sounds, and have your child join you. Point to pictures that support understanding of certain vocabulary or share child-friendly definitions (for example, for the word **graze**, say "graze means to eat grass"). Stay tuned in to your child's interests throughout the read – "read your child". For example, you might say "I see you kicking your feet! You seem to like this story!" Connect to your child's life experiences while reading.

Main Idea of the Story: "It's special to be with our family and learn new things."

Focus Vocabulary – Use these words as you talk about what's happening in the story and as you engage in connected activities.

- **Healthy** – feeling good, not sick
- **Notice** – to look at something
- **Visit** – to go somewhere for a little bit

Vocabulary to P.A.T.

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| P.A.T. Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• crops (T) - A plant that is grown to be picked for food or something else• herd (T) - A large group of animals• pecking (A) - (<i>Nod your head downward quickly</i>)• graze (A/T) - To eat grass• unwelcome (T) - Not wanted• scarecrow (P)• ruin (T) - To mess something up• "broken loose" (T) - To get away• gather (A)• catches (A) |
| Point to illustrations like <i>scarecrow</i> . | |
| Act out words like <i>pecking</i> . | |
| Tell child friendly definitions. | |

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A - ASK QUESTIONS

Promote conversations with infants and young toddlers by asking simple questions, giving wait time, and then preparing to answer your own question or build on the child's response. Remember that when we recognize and respond to children's attempts to communicate, we help build their brains. For young toddlers, you could ask, "What did Noah see when visiting his grandpa at the farm?" Encourage critical thinking and support language development for older toddlers by asking simple open-ended questions that begin with "how" or "why" to prompt children to talk through key events and think about characters' thoughts and feelings related to those events. Example questions for older toddlers could be, "Why did Noah visit his grandpa's farm?" or "Why was Noah's visit to the farm so special?"

D - DO MORE WITH THE BOOK

Make the book come alive. Tie the book to other parts of the day and provide opportunities for the children to connect with the events of the book. Call attention to what Noah learns about his family farm, the different animals and how they are special to his family. Invite your child to think about what is special to their family. Remind them that all families have something special about them. Noah was happy to help his grandpa around the family farm and learned new things that were special to his family. Other ways to make the book come alive include:

- Sing songs such as "Old McDonald" & "Farmer and the Dell"
- Visit a local farm or petting zoo in your community to learn about different animals, foods they eat and what other things that happen on a farm.
- Plant your own vegetable seeds and watch them grow (talk about the importance of taking care of living things).

Scan to see the READ strategy in action:



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COX Campus
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A Program of the Atlanta Speech School