



What Can A Parent Do To Promote Thinking?

"Children grow into the intellectual life around them."

Lev Vygotsky

The skill of **Predicting** means: Readers tell what they think will happen in a story. To confirm, readers find out if their predictions were true, partially true, or way off. Predicting is a way to focus our attention on what we are reading and motivates us to learn/read more. Therefore, it is important that we guide readers to not only predict what will happen, but to also confirm their predictions.

Ideas and tips for parents for the skill of predicting:

When reading to your child model using your schema/background knowledge, picture clues and other details in the selection to make a prediction. Then after reading talk about what a part of the story that made your prediction true, partially true or validated you were way off.

Use these prompts when talking/reading with your child:

Look at the details in the text.

Decide what you think will happen next, based on the details and background knowledge/schema.

Look back at the text and check to make sure the prediction was correct.

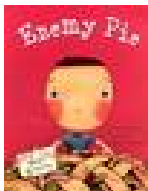
Literature that supports the application of this skill:



Good Night, Gorilla by [Peggy Rathmann](#)



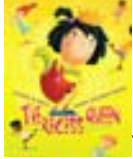
Ish by [Peter H. Reynolds](#)



Enemy Pie by [Derek Munson](#)



The Pirates Next Door by [Jonny Duddle](#)



The Recess Queen by [Alexis O'Neill](#)



Those Shoes by [Maribeth Boelts](#)



Miss Rumphius by [Barbara Cooney](#)

Questions/Phrases that a parent can ask his/her child to reinforce this skill:

- What do you think will happen based on what you already know?
- What clues are you using to make your prediction?
- What kinds of clues did you use? (pictures, words, background knowledge/schema)
- Was your prediction true, partially true or way off? How do you know?