

Listening, Looking, and Moving

Primary Objectives

8b. Follows directions

Why It's Important

Children learn by listening, looking, and moving. To help your child better understand language, encourage her to participate in a story by listening to the words, looking at the pictures, and connecting the words to movements.

Materials

Book: *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* by Susan Blair, Christine Ferrare, and Ellen Appleby (or another version of the story)

What You Do

1. Tell your child you are going to read a story about three billy goats. Ask her if she has ever seen or heard of a billy goat.
2. Read the story with your child, allowing her time to look at the illustrations and talk about what she sees.
3. Help her understand new vocabulary as you read the book together.
4. When you are finished, explain to your child that you will read the book again, and this time you will give her directions to follow. *When I say trip, trop, trip, trop you will stomp your feet and pretend you are walking over the bridge.*
5. Give your child other two-step directions throughout the story. Act out the motions for her to follow, if necessary.
6. You can extend this activity to other stories that your child is familiar with. When you feel your child can easily follow two-step directions, try adding a third step.