



Share the Story



Learn the Tip

1. **Somebody-wanted:** Start by talking about the main character. Who was the central person (or animal!) in the story? There may be more than one. What did they want?
2. **But:** Then talk about who or what was stopping the main character from getting what they wanted. This is called the problem or *conflict*.
3. **So-then:** Finally, talk about how the problem was solved. What happened to the main character? Did the situation change? Did they do something to overcome the problem?

Why this tip?

Help your child use their hand to summarize. It's okay if your child needs to flip back to the pictures or pages to remember details. Talking about the book helps your child understand the story and how the parts fit together. Plus, it's fun to share a story you enjoyed!



Ask Your Child

For all ages:

- [Somebody] Who is the main character?
- [Wanted] What did the character want?
- [But] What happened? What was the character's problem? Why can't they get what they want?
- [So] What happened next? How was the character's problem solved?
- [Then] How did the story end?

Help children refer to the book by asking questions like:

- How do you know?
- Show me the words and phrases that help you know that.
- What page did you learn that on?



Playfully Practice

Instead of retelling the story out loud, do it with pictures. Write each of the prompts (Somebody, Wanted, But, So, Then) on a piece of paper. Then, invite your child to draw a picture under the word.

For example, for "Somebody," your child would draw the main character. For "Wanted," your child would draw what the character wanted or the problem they faced.