



I Spy a Word...



Learn the Tip

1. **Pick a word and give hints:** Choose words that are important to the overall meaning of the text or words that your child struggled to read.
2. **Invite child to point and read it:** Your child should skim the page to find the word. For longer books, tell them which paragraph it's in.
3. **Switch:** Now let your child pick a word.
4. **Repeat:** For younger children, only talk about 2 or 3 words.

Why this tip?

It's easier to read tricky words when we know a lot of words. We call all the words your child knows their *vocabulary*. A great way to build your child's vocabulary is to spend time talking about words.



Ask Your Child

Younger kids

- I see a word that starts with _____. Can you find it?
- I'm thinking of a word that means _____. Can you find it?
- I'm thinking of a word that has the _____ sound. Can you find it?

Older kids

- I see a word where the sounds don't match the letters. Can you find it?
- I'm thinking of a word related to _____. Can you find it?
- I'm thinking of a word that is spelled with _____. Can you find it?



Playfully Practice

Instead of giving verbal clues, give nonverbal clues. Draw a quick sketch or act something out so that your child can guess the word you're thinking of.

Next, talk about the word. What does it start with? What does it mean? What tricky sounds does it have?

Then, switch.