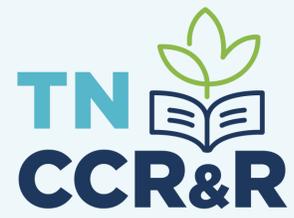
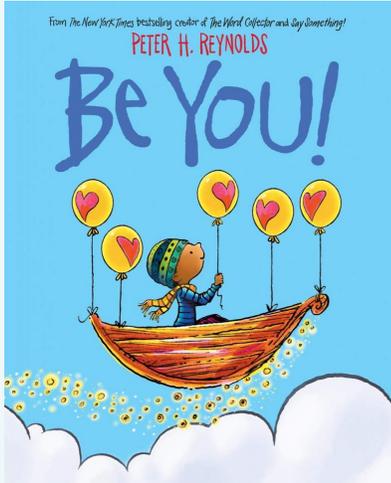


# Early Literacy Activities for Educators



## Setting the Stage for Your Read Aloud



### Be You!

*Written by and illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds*

Discover a joyful reminder of the ways that every child is unique and special; Peter H. Reynolds reminds readers to "be your own work of art." Be patient, persistent, and genuine because there is one, and only one, you! Be curious, be adventurous, and be brave. BE YOU!

#### For Preschool Ages

- Remember to set up your environment for your read-aloud.
- The focus of the initial read-aloud is for children to enjoy a good story.
- Use give and take interactions to promote language development.
- Have fun! Children enjoy books when you enjoy them.

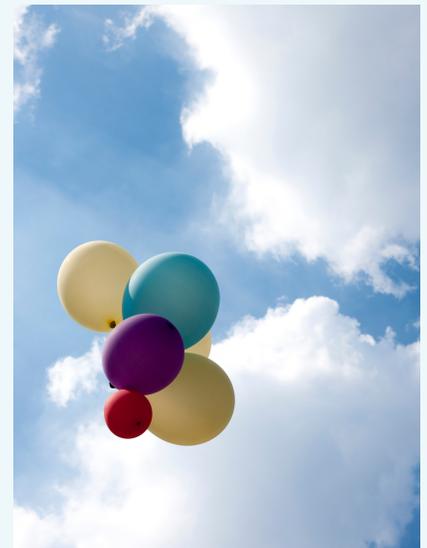
## Promoting Language and Early Literacy

Emphasize the following words or phrases by pointing to the word, acting out the word, and telling the children more about the word.

- Curious
- Be Loved
- Brave
- Adventurous
- Different
- Patient

### Suggested questions to ask the children during your read-aloud:

- Is there anyone in this world like you?
- What does it mean to be loved?
- What helps you be brave?
- What makes you unique or different? Tell me.
- Tell me about it.



### While children are answering questions, notice the following reading foundational skills:

#### 37-48 months:

- With prompting and support, younger toddlers show growing interest in the book and what information the book contains. While providing support and guidance, listen to children comment and ask questions during the read-aloud.

#### 4-5 years:

- With prompting and support, older preschool children answer questions about the meaning of words or phrases in the story. Ask children questions related to familiar and unfamiliar words in the story.





# Literacy Around The Room

## Incorporate **Be You!** into other parts of your day!



### Transition

During a transition when children are required to wait, incorporate a second read-aloud for literacy-rich environments.

- Use phrases like *I remember* to model inner thoughts.
- Ask additional questions to help children recall meanings to words emphasized during the initial read-aloud.

### Self Regulation

Self-regulation skills can help children build strong language and literacy skills. Brain break activities practice the skill of self-regulation and can improve a child's ability to focus during a learning activity.

- Have a dance party to get the wiggles out before a learning activity.

Providing modeling, guidance, and support during a learning activity, notice the following:

- After brain break activity, younger preschool children manage their behavior with increasing skill.
- After brain break activity, older preschool children maintain the focus necessary to complete the activity.

### Self Awareness

Self-awareness helps to manage thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Mindfulness practices the skill of self-awareness.

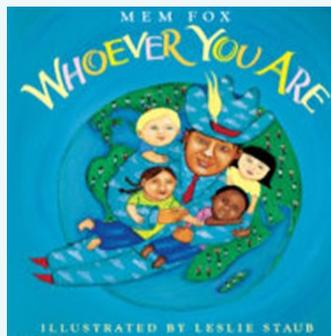
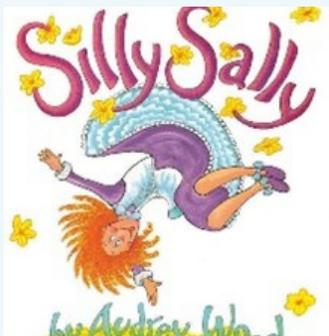
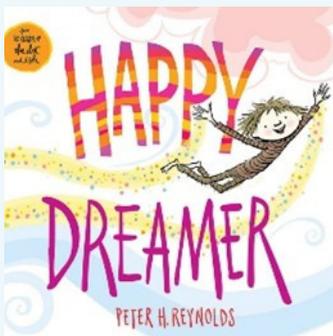
#### Eagle Flying

- Stand tall with your arms out and eyes closed. Imagine you are an eagle with feathers on your arms.
- Now, move your arms up and down like an eagle soaring through the sky.
- When you move your arms up, breathe in deeply, and as your arms move down, breathe out slowly.
- Repeat the pattern and work for up to three minutes.

Providing modeling, guidance, and support, notice the following:

- Younger preschool children show greater comfort with their independence and an increased feeling of self-worth.
- Older preschool children demonstrate an awareness of self as an individual, part of a family, and part of a community.

## Did your children enjoy this interactive read? Other books to check out!



***"When a teacher reads aloud, it is a bonding between the teacher, the children, the books, and the act of reading."***

**-Lester L. Laminack**