How Games Motivate Kids to Read

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Types of play

Instruction -adult initiated and adult directed Free play- child initiated and child directed Guided play- adult initiated, child directed

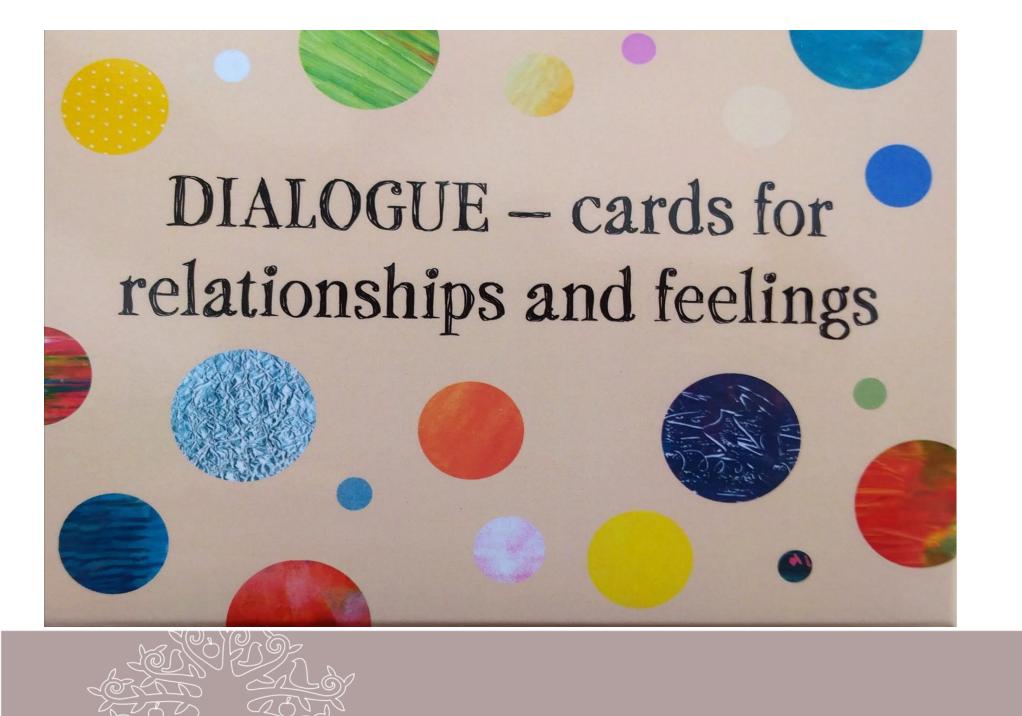
Guided play principles

- Guided play uses children's natural abilities to learn through play by allowing them to express their autonomy within a prepared environment and with adult scaffolding.
- Guided play, which melds exploration and child autonomy with the best elements of teacher-guided instruction (Fisher, Hirsh-Pasek, Golinkoff, Singer, & Berk, 2010; Weisberg, Hirsh-Pasek, & Golinkoff, 2013). Children cannot learn letter-sound pairings and adding by running around on a playground, even if that playground is covered in letters and numbers.
- Guided play refers to learning experiences that combine the child-directed nature of free play with a focus on learning outcomes and adult mentorship. Guided play thus has two key elements: child autonomy and adult guidance

Optimal learning through play happens when the activity

- (1) is experienced as joyful,
- (2) helps children find meaning in what they are doing or learning,
- (3) involves active, engaged, minds-on thinking
- (4) involves iterative thinking (e.g., experimentation, hypothesis testing), and
- (5) involves social interaction (the most powerful resource available to humans other people).

Hirsh-Pasek. Zosh. Golinkoff. Grau. Robb. & Kaufman



It is vital that children understand the meaning of sounds created by letters and the meaning of words in order to read. Reading, even in its earliest stages, is a process motivated by the elicitation of meaning. When pupils are given the meaning behind what they read, they take ownership of their own learning, thereby increasing their reading potential.

The teacher-researcher found that students began to put meaning behind letter-sound recognition when given motions to learn each individual letter sound. Students were relating the abstract sound they had heard to the representational letter, as well as the concrete presence of a bodily action

Choose a card that describes the sound U for you

Create this pose with your body

Move in this position

Meet a friend and share why this pose is for your U

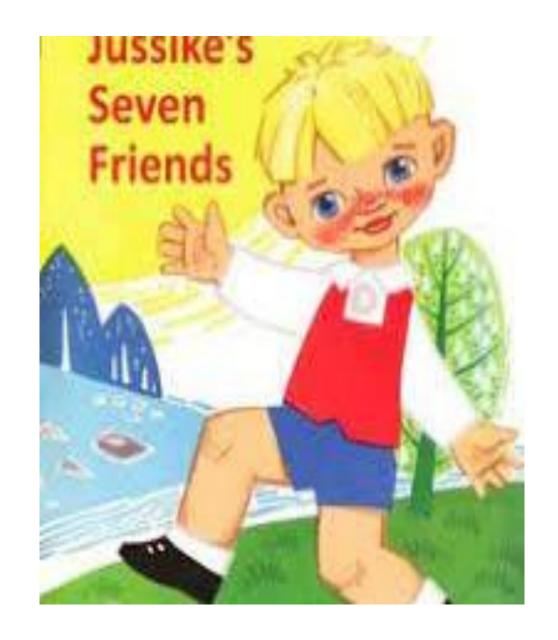
Assume this pose when you hear the words together U

You can also try the same with other letter sounds.



Use of cards in reading

- -before reading warm up and stimulate interest,
- to support comprehension during or after reading,
- -after reading make connections with prior knowledge.



Before reading

Choose a card for Jussike

Tell others what kind of person he is, what he likes etc.

Who do you think are his seven friends?

Choose cards for each of them



Read the story

THERE ONCE WAS A LITTLE BOY NAMED JUSSIKE WHO LOVED SUNDAYS A LOT. IT WAS LOVELY TO FROLIC AND PLAY FROM DAWN TO DUSK! THERE WERE NO CHORES TO DO. JUSSIKE WISHED EVERY DAY COULD BE SUNDAY. HE DECIDED TO GO TO SUNDAYLAND SO HE COULD SUNDAY TO BE WITH HIM ALL THE TIME.

JUSSIKE FIGURED ALL THE DAYS LIVED BEHIND THE FORREST WHERE THE SUN DISAPPERED EVERY EVENING, BECAUSE WHEN JUSSIKE AWOKE THE NEXT MORNING THE SUN ALWAYS BROUGHT THE NEW DAY ALONG WITH.



During the reading cards help to create dialogue with students by using the text they have read. This dialogue involves asking questions to help children explore the text at a deeper level, including defining new words, analyzing the components of a story and being able to talk about the text. In other words, dialogic reading is a form of guided and scaffolded reading where the focus is on interpretive and critical comprehension more than on accuracy and fluency.



During the reading

What new did you find out about Jussike?

Would you like change the card?

Find a card for Sunday

What do you do on Sundays?

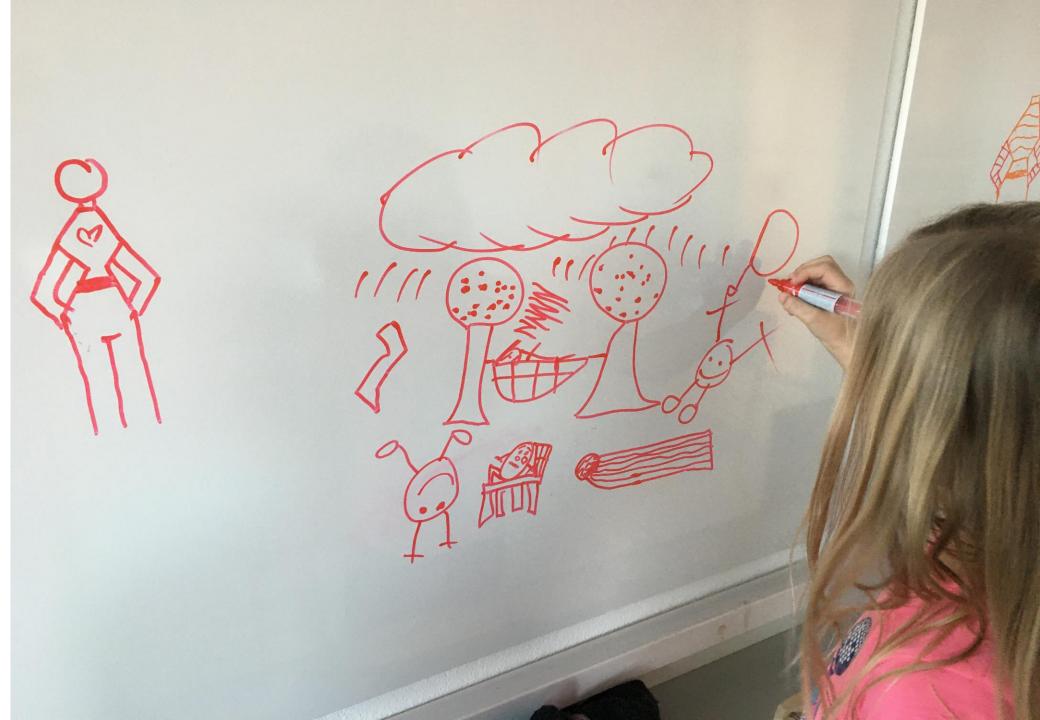
How does it make you feel?



After reading







Recognising, naming and managing emotions is important for communication and learning. After the reading, you can use these cards to explore the feeling of the story and what emotions reading evoked. When children express their feelings and thoughts, we can better support their motivation.

See if you can find a card that describes how you're feeling right now.



Thank you!

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