



Picture Book Connect

by PAT BARRETT DRAGAN

Enjoy the 14 read-aloud lessons included here. Each one is designed for you as you read a quality picture book to groups of young children.

The lessons give suggested scripting to facilitate your reading, as well as ideas for engaging children. You will see the following notes in each lesson as a reminder:

- Suggested scripted text for readers is indicated in italics with the lesson. Feel free to adapt as you wish.
- The **Now We Read** and **After We Read** sections include suggested instructions in brackets for readers.

For each book, the lesson is divided into sections for before, during, and after reading. Each lesson also includes some optional activities to extend the book.

Suggestions for tying the books to social-emotional learning are provided. While specific social-emotional strengths or topics are listed, you may find that a picture book lends itself to a variety of strengths. You will see the following note in each lesson as a reminder.

- Many picture books can be used to address more than one social-emotional topic or strength.



Reading Aloud to Children

- There are many ways to read to children. You may have your own special way. If you do, honor it.
- Sometimes the book chooses the way to read it. Enjoy the experience!
- Read the book to yourself first, before reading it to children. Check out the content and whether it meets your lesson vision.
- You may wish to read the story through without interruption the first time.
- You may wish to do a picture walk first, showing all the pictures in the book, and then reading. Allow time for children's comments as you read.
- You may try for quiet listening, with talking time later.
- You may find it works best to let children comment throughout, and reserve uninterrupted reading or briefly interrupted reading for another time.

Some wonderful picture book secrets: Children love to hear and view some picture books again and again. They commit parts to memory. They act the parts out. They sing and talk them, play them and, if they love the books, they never forget them.

Let the books and the children lead the way.

