

FROM HEAD TO TOE BY ERIC CARLE



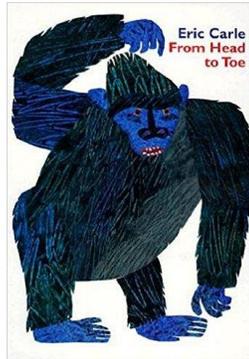
From ears to shoulders and head to toe, this activity will help turn reading activities with your child into language-rich experiences.

THINK ABOUT . . .

Research has shown that books are a great way to expose your child with hearing loss to many, many language and literacy concepts. The activities described below are a few ideas for helping parents create language-focused reading experiences to make the most of story time. You can use these suggestions with any book – but as an example, we've used one of our favorites *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle



FOR MORE IDEAS:

With a quick search of the internet, you can find many printable activities for Eric Carle books. These can be fun and educational for your child. Remember to follow your child's lead, help them learn to listen, and keep it fun!

LANGUAGE-FOCUSED READING

- **Connect pictures to language:** Before you reveal each page, hold the book close to you. Say the name of the animal you see or give your child clues about the animal and let him or her guess what it is before showing the picture. Then reveal the picture and say the name of the animal again. This will help your child use words to imagine what you are describing.
- **Relate words to real-life action:** On each page, read the action performed by each animal and ask your child "can you do it"? Wait and allow your child to hear the action and perform it. Then perform the action yourself and say the vocabulary word again. You can make this a fun game.
- **Recognize patterns in speech:** Prompt your child to say "I can do it!" before he or she does each action. If your child needs help, you say the first part, "I can__" and let him or her finish with "__do it!"
- **Expand vocabulary:** This is a great book to help your child expand to a variety of vocabulary words. For example, after bending your neck like a giraffe, ask your child if he or she can bend his or her elbow, waist, or knees. Say each vocabulary word multiple times so your child will hear it and connect it to its meaning. Let your child take turns with giving you directions too. See what happens if you follow the direction incorrectly . . . can your child help you fix it?
- **Connect pictures to language:** Talk to your child about the illustrations in the book. For example, talk about the actions each animal performs, the colors of each animal, or what each animal says or what they look like.
- **Point out personal connections to text:** Connect the book to your child's personal experiences. For example, ask "What animals did you see when we went to the zoo?" or "What animals do you see outside today?"
- **Complex thinking:** Ask your child "I wonder . . ." questions to help develop complex language skills. For example, you might ask your child "I wonder which animal would be the gorilla's best friend". Let your child think about this and provide his or her thoughts. There are no right or wrong answers and can be a fun way to promote more discussions.

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