

# The Early Years Count Literacy Connection



## Read to Tiger

Written by S.J. Fore  
Illustrated by R.W. Alley

Preschool edition  
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### Overview of Book

A boy just wants to be left alone to read his book, but the tiger is constantly interrupting him. The boy is frustrated and the tiger is remorseful, but still won't stop making noises! How can the boy solve his problem and read his book in peace?

Genre: Fiction

### Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some from *Read to Tiger* to introduce in your classroom:

concentrate	suddenly
sniffles	shadow
whisker	

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 words to highlight.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

Use these new words throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a word from our story!"

### Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Approaches To Learning  
Item A (*Initiative and planning*)

Social and Emotional  
Development  
Item D (*Emotions*)  
Item H (*Conflict resolution*)

Language, Literacy and  
Communication  
Item P (*Reading*)  
Item Q (*Book enjoyment and knowledge*)

### Reading Tips

Take advantage of the text elements as you read this story. Raise your voice accordingly as you read the text in all -caps, and put emphasis in your tone for italics.

The constant distractions by the tiger exasperate the boy. Ask the children what distracts them and how it feels when someone distracts them from what they are trying to do.

Ask questions like, "What will the boy do if the tiger does it again?" or "What could the boy do to help the tiger stop?"

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

### **Throughout the Routine**

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Talk about how tigers move and use the children's ideas for **transitions**.

At **Small Group Time**, have props and pictures for children to use to sort by stripes/no stripes.

At **Outside Time**, get balls for children to kick and practice their "Hi-yas!"

Make blank book templates and place in the **Writing Area**. Encourage children to write and illustrate their own story.

### **Around the Room**

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Put out or add trains to the **Block Area**.

Have a basket of working flashlights in the **Toy Area** for children to use and explore.

Collect and add tigers to the animal basket in the **Block Area**.

Add books to the **Book Area** that show children reading or loving books and stories, such as *Lola At The Library* by Anna McQuinn or *Library Lion* by Michelle Knudsen.

### **Open-ended Questions**

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *Read to Tiger*:

It's really hard for the tiger to be quiet while the boy reads.  
When is it hard for you to be quiet?

What is your favorite reading spot?

How do you feel when someone keeps distracting you from what you want to do?

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact*  
***The Family Connection:***

website—  
[www.famconn.org](http://www.famconn.org)

Facebook—  
@famconnsjc

phone—  
574-237-9740

### **@ Home**

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Read to Tiger* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

We've been enjoying the book *Read to Tiger* in our classroom. It's given us an opportunity to talk about getting frustrated and how hard it is sometimes to be quiet. As you read the story, you might ask your child to describe the boy's emotions each time the tiger distracts him. If you get the opportunity to go to the Potawatomi Zoo, be sure to visit the tigers there. Better yet, bring the book so you and your child can sit near the tiger enclosure and read the story to them!