



Ladybug Girl and the Rescue Dogs

by David Soman and Jacky Davis

Reading with your child is an excellent way to expose your child to words, topics, and ideas that are more complex than what they would see in books they can read on their own. Conversations are a great way to help increase your child's oral language skills and build their vocabulary. C.A.R. is a conversation starter you can use with your child any time.

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Below is an example of how to use C.A.R. with the book, *Ladybug Girl and the Rescue Dogs*.



C.A.R.	Example
<p>C Comment and Wait (count to 5) <i>*Make a comment about what you see on the page.</i></p>	<p><i>Adult:</i> I see lots of dogs catching balls on this page.</p> <p><i>Child:</i> That's the same dog in different places.</p>
<p>A Ask questions and Wait (count to 5) <i>*Ask questions that do not have a "yes/no" or one-word answer to them.</i></p>	<p><i>Adult:</i> Why do you think the illustrator drew the same dog in five different positions?</p> <p><i>Child:</i> I think they were trying to show the dog jumping up to catch the ball.</p>
<p>R Respond by adding a little more to the child's response.</p>	<p><i>Adult:</i> Oh, I see! You're saying that if they had just drawn the dog in one place, we wouldn't have been able to see the motion that happened when she jumped up and came back down again.</p>



Activities	Parent Tips
<p>Story Elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » After reading, work with your child on the elements of the story. Using paper and writing materials (pencil, crayons, markers, colored pencils), write and draw the characters, setting, and main events of the story. » Ask your child to draw and/or write all the main characters in the story. » Invite your child to draw and/or write where the story took place. » Help your child draw and/or write the sequence of the main events in the story (first, next, then, finally). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Incorporate reading into your daily routine. » Create a quiet, special place in your home for your child to read, write, and draw. » Go to a local library and get a library card for your child to be able to select books of interest. » Talk about what you're reading together, and offer child-friendly definitions for any words that your child might not know.
More Activities	Related Books/Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » In the story, Ladybug Girl works with her friends to solve a problem in her community. Help your child think about problems in your community and brainstorm ways that you and your child could work together to help solve them. For example: » Find an animal shelter in your town and volunteer to be a dog walker for an afternoon. » Go to your local animal shelter and help your child read to the animals to keep them company. » Become a foster family for a rescue animal or offer to care for a neighbor's pet when they are out of town. 	<p>Operation Rescue Dog By Maria Gianferrari and Luisa Uribe</p> <p>Can I Be Your Dog? By Troy Cummings</p> <p>Rescue and Jessica: A Lifechanging Friendship By Jessica Kensky, Patrick Downes, and Scott Magoon</p> <p>125 Pet Rescues: From Pound to Palace: Homeless Pets Made Happy By National Geographic Kids</p> <p>Dog Training for Kids: Fun and Easy Ways to Care for Your Furry Friend By Vanessa Estrada Marin and Alisa Harris</p>

