

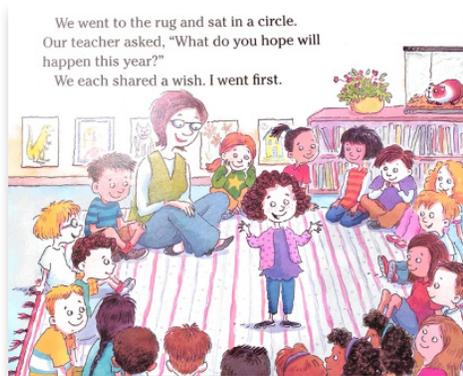
This School Year Will Be the Best

by Kay Winters, illustrated by Renée Andriani

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 will help increase your child's oral language skills and build their vocabulary. C.A.R. is a conversation starter that you can use with your child any time.

Below is an example of how to use C.A.R. with the book, *This School Year Will Be the Best*.



C.A.R.	Example
<p>C Comment and Wait (count to 5) *Make a comment about what you see on the page.</p>	<p><i>Adult:</i> Look at all of the other kids like you.</p> <p><i>Child:</i> That looks like a lot of new friends.</p>
<p>A Ask questions and Wait (count to 5) *Ask questions that do not have a "yes/no" or one-word answer to them.</p>	<p><i>Adult:</i> I wonder how the kids are feeling?</p> <p><i>Child:</i> They are happy and having fun at school with their teacher.</p>
<p>R Respond by adding a little more to the child's response.</p>	<p><i>Adult:</i> School and learning is very fun. I would be happy to be at school too.</p>



Activities	Parent Tips
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Have your child recall the teacher from the story and what her wish was for the year. Ask your child to write a letter to their future teacher explaining what they would like their teacher to know about them. » Have your child make faces of the emotions they may be feeling about going back to school. Take photos of each emotion using a digital camera, phone, or tablet. Refer back to the photos throughout summer having your child identify the emotion they are showing in each picture. Discuss appropriate ways for your child to express each emotion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Reread a book several times. Reading the same story multiple times provides your child multiple opportunities to learn new vocabulary. » When reading to your child, model reading the story how you would want your child to read it. Speak clearly, well-paced, and with appropriate expression. » Encourage your child to make predictions before reading a book. Before you begin reading, ask your child, “What do you think this book is going to be about?” While you are reading, ask, “What do you predict is going to happen next?” After the story, ask your child, “Was your prediction correct? Why or why not?”
More Activities	Related Books/Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Ask your child why you think this school year will be the best. Ask them to create their own page for the story by writing a sentence to dictate their response, as well as illustrate a picture of why this school year will be THE BEST! » Work with your child to set a goal for the upcoming school year. Ask your child, “What do you want to accomplish this school year?” “Is there something new you want to learn?” » Have your child role play and pretend as if they were the teacher in the story. Ask them to describe what their wish for the school year would be if they were the teacher. 	<p>First Day Jitters by Julie Danneberg</p> <p>If You Take a Mouse to School by Laura Numeroff</p> <p>The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson</p> <p>The Pigeon HAS to Go to School! by Mo Willems</p> <p>David Goes to School by David Shannon</p>

