

Alfie the Brave

Richard Harris and Simon Howe



Show your child the book and say “Let’s read a book together”

Allow your child to hold the book as you read the title moving your finger from left to right under the words as you read. Talk about what you think the book might be about. Make connections between this book and other animal books that you might have read together.

Sitting next to or behind your child and encouraging them to turn each page as you read will help focus their attention on the book.



Talking about feelings

Alfie is a dog who experiences different feelings in the book just like people do. Talk about what Alfie is feeling using the words in the book e.g. scared, not brave, envy, timid, sad and brave. Share with your child times when you might have felt some of these feelings and see if your child takes a turn to talk about their feelings too. All feelings are important and learning to talk about them with others is helpful for children.

Story telling in our own way

Choose a page in the book and show your child how you can talk about what is happening using your own words. Let your child have a turn to choose their own page to talk about. You can help them by giving them some words and phrases if they get stuck.

Noisy words

There are words in this book that are in big and bold text like “woof!” and “hissss!”. Highlight these words by saying them a little louder and pointing out the first and last sounds in these words to encourage your child to become aware of how sounds look on paper.



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Serve-Return-Rally-Learn

Reading a book together is an opportunity to Serve-Return-Rally with your child. Let's explore a possible Serve-Return-Rally from the book, *"Alfie the Brave."*



Serve

after reading the book...

[adult] **"Do you remember when we saw a python slithering across the road?"**

[child] **"yes, there were loads of birds squawking and diving at it."**



Return



Rally

[adult] **"That's right. I remember now. They didn't seem scared at all. I was scared! How were you feeling?"**

[child] **"I was scared too. I was worried that it was going to bite us."**

[adult] **"It's okay to feel scared especially when there is something dangerous nearby."**

The more rallies you share, the more learning moments you create together.



Learn



Did you know?

When we use children's past experiences, they are more likely to contribute their thoughts and ideas. This provides children with opportunities to recount everyday events, which is the beginning of storytelling. It also helps children to process their feelings and supports social-emotional development.