



Expectations Read-Aloud

One way to encourage positive behavior at Read-Alouds is to involve the kids in setting behavioral expectations. You can help the kids draft their own set of expectations to support TRC's Promises as part of a Read-Aloud. The kids at Sullivan House did this with a team of volunteers a few weeks ago (see attached).

Here's one way a team at your site can do it too:

Start out by **reviewing TRC's Promises** and explain that each of them is an expectation:

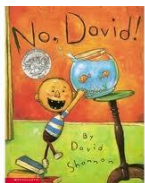
We expect everyone at the Read-Aloud, including the volunteers, to listen to, respect, cooperate and have fun with the other people at the Read-Aloud.

Then **dig deeper** with the kids:

What does listening to, respecting, cooperating and having fun with others look like? **Make a list of all their descriptions.** What does it feel like when everyone is keeping the Promises? What are the results or consequences of that at a Read-Aloud?

What happens when folks don't listen, respect, cooperate or have fun? What does that look like? How does that feel? What are the results and consequences of that?

Then **read some books** that explore what meeting behavioral expectations does or doesn't look like. Start with one book for the whole group and then break into smaller groups to read and talk about it.



No David! by David Shannon

What are David's mom's expectations? Are they reasonable?

How does he feel in the book? How does his mom feel?



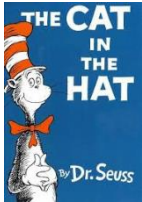
Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by Mo Willems

Is it reasonable for the Pigeon to expect that he should be allowed to drive the bus?



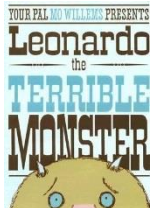
Olivia by Ian Falconer

Olivia is a high energy kid. She and her parents seem to have worked out some ways for Olivia to express her independence. At one point in the story, Olivia crosses a line and gets in trouble. How is Olivia painting on her wall different from the other things she does in the book?



The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss

How do the kids feel when the Cat arrives and starts making mischief? How does the fish feel? What does the mom expect the kids to do when she leaves?



Leonardo the Terrible Monster by Mo Willems

Monsters are expected to act a certain way, but Leonardo makes a choice to behave differently.

More books about behavior and expectations:

Mama, Do You Love Me? by Barbara Joosse

Llama, Llama Red Pajama or *Llama, Llama Mad at Mama* by Anna Dewdney

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? by Jane Yolen

Activities

Play games to help kids practice listening and following directions. Talk about how the rules of a game are the “expectations” and what happens when folks do or don’t follow the rules. Try playing Simon Says, Mother May I? or doing the Hokie Pokie.

Bring the group back together and **revisit the list the kids made** describing what the promises look like. **Help them make it into a list of Read-Aloud expectations** that you can post along with the Promises at your site. (See Sullivan House’s Expectations as an example.)



Read-Aloud Rules & Expectations

Developed by the Kids of Sullivan House

1. No running
2. No yelling
3. Raise your hand when you want to speak
4. Pay attention
5. Respect each other
6. No talking when someone else is talking
7. No screens (computers, phones, DX)
8. Follow instructions