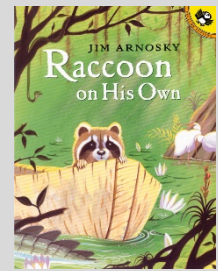




# Raccoon on His Own

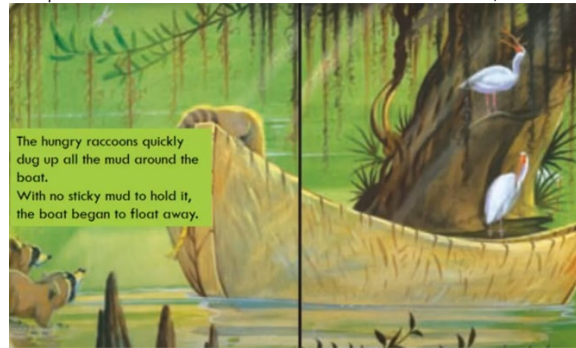
by Jim Arnosky



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, *Raccoon on His Own*.



C.A.R.	Example
<p><b>C</b> <b>Comment and Wait</b> (count to 5) *Make a comment about what you see on the page.</p>	<p><b>Adult:</b> Uh-oh. The raccoon is going to be separated from his family.</p> <p><b>Child:</b> I bet he will be scared!</p>
<p><b>A</b> <b>Ask questions and Wait</b> (count to 5) *Ask questions that do not have a "yes/no" or one-word answer to them.</p>	<p><b>Adult:</b> Do you remember a time when you have been separated from your family?</p> <p><b>Child:</b> Yes, at the store.</p>
<p><b>R</b> <b>Respond</b> by adding a little more to the child's response.</p>	<p><b>Adult:</b> I bet you were scared, too. Just remember if you ever get separated you should find an adult to help you.</p>

## Activities

- » Safety Tips: Use this opportunity to talk to your children about how to be safe and what to do if they get lost. Teach your child your phone number, your full name, and who they can trust to ask for help. Role play different situations to make it realistic.
- » Pond Life: Take a family outing to a local pond. Allow your child to explore the area and take note of any new insects, animals, or plants they see. Encourage them to document their exploration by drawing pictures of what they see in a journal.

