BOOK TITLE:  Just Like You  
AUTHOR:  Emma Dodd

SUMMARY OF BOOK:  A cub and an adult bear cuddle, hug, and explore the world while the cub describes what he/she wants to be like when grown. There are very few words in the book, but lots of admiration! All illustrations and words are gender-neutral.

*BEFORE READING (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

Try questions such as these:

1. Take a picture walk through the book starting from the cover to the end of the book, just observing the illustrations. Read the title of the book and ask the child what he/she thinks the book will be about, based on the pictures.

2. Ask questions about the pictures he/she sees: “Where do you think the big bear and baby bear are?” “What sounds do bears make?”

3. Who does your child think the adult bear is: a mama or papa? Someone else? Talk about this.

DURING READING (ask these questions):

1. Point out objects, animals, and colors in the story. “What color is the bear?” “What is the big bear doing with the fish?” “What do the bears see in the water?” “What is on the ground?”

2. Do you see trees like that outside? What time of year might this be? What time of day?

3. Try to relate the story to the child. “Who does the cub look up to? “Have you ever seen your shadow?”

AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

1. Talk about what your child wants to be when she/he grows up. Who is like that that they know?

2. Have your child draw a picture or make a card for a family member or friend who is like the adult bear.

3. Walk outside with your child and have him or her point out things (e.g., snow, trees, stars) that he or she recognizes from the book.

Compliments of:

* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage. For additional activities, visit www.AlaskImaginationLibrary.org.