BOOK TITLE: The Jacket I Wear in the Snow
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SUMMARY OF BOOK: It starts with a stuck zipper in a jacket, and in wonderful rhyme it describes all the winter clothing a child is wearing. The story is told as a rebus, with pictures substituting for words for the articles of clothing so it’s fun for all ages to “read.”

*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. Talk about the cover of the book and what articles of clothing the child is wearing. “What clothes are you wearing that are the same? Different?”
2. Look around where you are and what other people might be wearing. “Do some people look warmer or colder than others? How can you tell by what they’re wearing?”
3. “Have you ever made a snowman? What do snowmen wear?”

DURING READING (ask these questions):

1. Pause at the pictures in the text so your child can say the word.
2. Emphasize the rhyme and see if your child can begin to anticipate the words. Pause and let him complete the phrase.
3. Encourage your child to relate the clothing to what she is wearing: color, description, whether she needs them or not. Are there any things she finds uncomfortable? Soft? Smooth?
4. On the page when the tears begin, ask why might the child be crying? What happened? What else goes wrong afterwards?
5. “What will she take off first? Next?”
6. On the last page, “how is the girl feeling? Why?”

AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

1. Next time you’re helping your child put on clothes or take them off, relate it to the book: “This is the jacket you wear in the snow....”
2. Talk about frustration and how uncomfortable it is. “When have you ever felt like that? What would make you feel better? How could we handle a situation like that?”
3. When you come back in from the snow, warm up with something hot and relate it back to the book: “Remember the girl and her stuck zipper and how she was so happy afterwards?”