



BOOK TITLE: The Listening Walk
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ILLUSTRATOR: Aiki



SUMMARY OF BOOK: A young girl and her father walk through town and a park, paying attention to all the things around them that make sounds: shoes, dogs, lawn mowers, ducks. The sounds are all described, and sounds can be found anywhere!

***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. Stop and ask your child what sounds he hears *right now*. Listen for softer and softer sounds.
2. Talk about loud and soft, quiet and noisy. "Are there sounds you don't like?"

Sounds you do? Which ones?"

3. Explain that this is going to be a special walk of listening so there will be times of no talking so you can listen carefully.

DURING READING (ask these questions):

1. Ask which sounds your child recognizes: the dog's toenails, the lawn sprinklers? As you read, imitate the sounds with your child.
2. As you walk along, listen for new sounds, the sounds you make by moving on different surfaces, the different sounds between your shoes and your child's.
3. "Can you tell the different sounds different cars make? How do you make

car sounds? Bird sounds?"

4. Spend time with the pictures: "What's happening here? Does the girl like that sound? How can you tell?"
5. Relate to your child's experience: "Which sounds hurt your ears?" "Which sounds make you feel happy?" "Have we heard that sound before?"

AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

1. Take a Listening Walk!
2. When you go on family outings, relate it back to the book: "What sound do I hear?" "I sound different when I walk on snow, can you tell?"

3. See if you can do it in reverse: imitate sounds and see if you and your child can identify them. Or see what sounds you can identify with your eyes closed.

