



Sharing stories is a great way to increase the number of words your little one knows and the more times they hear the words the more likely they will be to use them.

Here are some ideas to make the most of story time at home with *Bugs Galore* by Peter Stein

- **Look at the front cover together, read the title talk about it**

What does galore mean? Ask your little one why they think the butterfly might have a secret world. Talk about the butterflies they can see illustrated on the cover. Introduce your child to size, colour and shape words to help describe them.

- **Listen to the rhyming words together**

Throughout the story there are lots and lots of examples of rhyming words. Pick one of the easy rhyming pairs and come up with some new words together. For example, on the page with the big black spider the rhyming words are flat and that. Think of all

the other words that rhyme with flat that could describe bugs – cat, flat, hat, bat etc.

- **Explain new and interesting words**

Stop and talk about interesting words as you come across them. Ask your child to tell you what they might mean first then explain using examples. Eg., “Look at all the white flying bugs near the little boy’s mouth! It looks like he’s going to breathe them all in, or inhale them, while he’s snoring!!” It’s important to not skip over these unusual words but use them as opportunities to help your child learn new words.

- **The end of the story**

Books don’t have to end when the words stop. Ask your little one some of the things they found out about insects. Which was their favourite insect and why? Flick back through the pages together to revisit all the different types.

Read this book over and over again with your little one. The more times you read it, the more involved they will become.

- **Be scientists together**

When we explore, look at, describe and talk about and record living things we are being scientists. Why not look for lots of different types of insects around your back yard or at the park? Talk about whether they are big or small, brightly coloured or camouflaged to hide in the bushes. You could draw pictures of the creatures you discover.

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