



Storm Stories

Naming Words		Action Words	Describing Words	
night	lightning	dictate	grey	helpful
blanket	cloud	write	caring	wet
storm	cat	brainstorm	loud	safe
story	kitten	imagine	kind	secure
		illustrate	fierce	

Comments/ Questions/ Expanded Conversations

Right Here:

- **Use Parallel-Talk (describe what the child is doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“I see that you are doing a lot of writing (or drawing). Can you tell me about what you have been writing (or drawing)?”
- **Use Self-Talk (describe what you are doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“I am looking at the illustrations in *One Dark Night* for an idea of what to draw. The storm created a lot of rain. I think I will draw a picture of some animals in the rain. What animals should I draw?”

OR

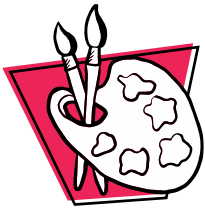
“I am looking at the illustrations in *Thunder Cake* for an idea of what to draw. The little girl and her grandma went to the barn to gather eggs. I think I will draw a picture of the little girl counting. What animals should I draw?”

Connection to Text:

“This storm in *One Dark Night/Thunder Cake* reminds me of the rainstorm in *A Letter to Amy*. There was a strong wind and a lot of rain in both books.”

Non-Immediate Events:

“I am writing about a time when I was walking in the rain on a windy day.”



Wind Illustrations

Naming Words	Action Words	Describing Words
charcoal inspiration oil pastels illustrator image design	depict combine represent interpret analyze	breezy realistic energetic relaxed calm

Comments/ Questions/ Expanded Conversations

Right Here:

- **Use Parallel-Talk (describe what the child is doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“You are using oil pastels to create your illustration. What other materials would you like to use?”
- **Use Closed-Ended Question:**
“Are you illustrating a gentle wind like the one that blew Gilberto’s sailboat, or are you illustrating a strong, fierce wind like the one that tried to blow open his door?”

Connection to Text (after reading *Gilberto and the Wind*):

“In the book *Gilberto and the Wind*, the wind was very helpful, and it also frightened Gilberto. Would you like to illustrate a helpful wind or a frightening wind?”

Non-Immediate Events:

“The next time it is windy outside, I will make a kite and try to fly it. I hope that the wind will blow it high up in the sky, just like the wind did for some of the boys in *Gilberto and the Wind*.”



Box Lid Painting

Naming Words		Action Words		Describing Words
path	trail	smear	blend	waterproof gently colorful
eyedropper	ink	mix	drop	
color	marks	squeeze	tilt	
names		run	repel	

Comments/ Questions/ Expanded Conversations

Right Here:

- **Use Self-Talk (describe what you are doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“I am squeezing the eyedropper very gently to let only a little water drip onto the paper. What do you think will happen if I drop more water on the paper?”
- **Use Parallel-Talk (describe what the child is doing) + Closed-Ended Question:**
“What do think will happen when you tilt the box? (Pause for a response.) As the water drips down the paper, it makes a colorful trail.”
- **Use Parallel-Talk (describe what the child is doing) + Closed-Ended Question:**
“Look how the marker colors run and blend together when you tilt the box, but the crayon marks stay the same. Which do you think are waterproof, the crayon marks or the marker colors?”

Connection to Text:

“Remember in the book, *A Letter to Amy*, when Peter’s letter blew away in the rain, the ink did not smear. I guess he used waterproof ink.”

Non-Immediate Events:

“When I was walking in the rain the other day, I was carrying red paper. The rain got the paper wet, and the color ran onto my hands.”



Designing and Experimenting with Clay Boats

Naming Words	Action Words	Describing Words
ballast hull clay passenger	float sink steer sail design build create inspire	buoyant level sturdy strong

Comments/ Questions/ Expanded Conversations

Right Here:

- **Use Parallel-Talk (describe what the child is doing) with Repeated Vocabulary + Open-Ended Question:**
“What happens when you place the clay boat in the water? (Pause for a response.) When you place it in the water with no passengers, it floats and remains buoyant, and when you add passengers, the boat begins to sink in the water.”
- **Use Self-Talk (describe what you are doing) + Closed-Ended Question:**
“My boat is moving slowly through the water. It is staying afloat and going very, very slowly. Is your boat moving fast or slow?”
- **Use Self-Talk (describe what you are doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“I am using a straw to try and blow my boat. I am doing an experiment to see what happens. It moved slowly. You try an experiment. Try blowing your boat. What happened? Try using a gentle breath. Then trying using a really strong breath. What happened?”

Non-Immediate Events:

“This reminds me of our Let’s Find Out About It lesson on sinking and floating. What materials did we learn are good at staying afloat?”



Rabbit Habitats

Naming Words		Action Words	Describing Words
hedge lawn shelter shower raindrop	clover warren burrow habitat	nibble plan construct build	soaked safe dry secure comfortable

Comments/ Questions/ Expanded Conversations

Right Here:

- **Use Parallel-Talk (describe what the child is doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“Why did you decide to use these materials to build your rabbit habitat? I’m using some of the same materials. I think that you and I are both building similar constructions.”
- **Use Self-Talk (describe what you are doing) + Closed-Ended Question:**
“I’m having trouble completing my habitat. The materials that I’m using don’t stay together the right way. Do you think I should use blocks or sticks?”
- **Use Self-Talk (describe what you are doing) + Open-Ended Question:**
“I built my rabbit habitat out of sticks, but it wasn’t stable, and it fell down. Then I decided to construct another habitat out of blocks, and it seemed more secure. How did you construct your habitat? What did you do first?”

Non-Immediate Events:

“There are several rabbits that live near my house, and every day I see them out on my lawn, hopping around and nibbling on the grass.”