Story Time!

KISSES for KINDERGARTEN

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Tips for Story Time Success

- Sitting for long periods of time can be difficult for young children. Have kids spend 30 to 60 seconds "shaking out their wiggles" before story time begins.

- Get comfortable! Story time should be relaxing and fun. Kids can rest on the floor, lounge on pillows, or sit in comfortable chairs.

- Introduce the book by telling children the title and who the author is.

- Be sure to pause for punctuation as you read. Periods and commas allow readers a chance to catch their breath while reading aloud. If you have time beforehand, practice the story at least once to make sure you know the pacing and cadence, especially if the story is told in rhyme.

- When story time is over, get up and move around before you do any other activities. The more active children are, the better they learn.

Activities

1. *Kisses for Kindergarten* is written in rhyme. Have children pair up and think of words that rhyme. One child should suggest a word (like "cat"), and the other should come up with a rhyming word (like "hat"). How many pairs of rhyming words can they come up with? Write the pairs down on a whiteboard or a large piece of paper.

2. The main character is the person a story is about. Ask children the following questions: Who is this story about? What is that person's name? What is that person like?

3. Imagine what Stella's first day of kindergarten was like. Have children use paper and crayons to draw what they think she did on her first day of school.

4. The setting is where a story takes place. What is the setting for *Kisses for Kindergarten*? Is there more than one setting? Have children use crayons and paper to draw one of the settings in this book.

5. Ask children to describe how Stella feels at the beginning of the story and how she feels at the end. Does she feel the same way or differently at those two times? Why do you think her feelings changed?