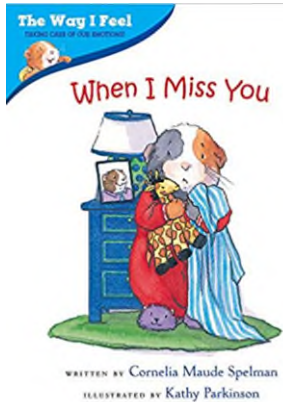


Pre-K Story Time



When I Miss You

By Cornelia Maude Spelman

Told from the perspective of a young guinea pig, *When I Miss You* helps children put into words the feelings they experience when they have to be away from their parents. Reassurances, coping strategies, and the help of caregivers are explored as the guinea pig becomes more comfortable with missing their parents.

(Ages 3-6)

Introducing this book to young children:



CLL5.4a

Before reading *When I Miss You*, preview the story by doing a picture walk and discuss the pictures with the children. Point out important picture clues on each page and talk about what you see. Encourage children make predictions about what will happen and make real life connections to what they see in the book.



CLL5.4d

Before or during the reading, ask children if they've ever felt a feeling that made them have the same expression as the little guinea pig. Discuss what the word "missing" means relating to emotions. Encourage children to describe how they feel or what they do when they miss someone to help themselves feel better.



SED2.4a

After reading the story, facilitate a discussion – asking children “Who do you miss while you’re at school?” and “What do you do to feel better when you miss someone?” Write the children’s responses on chart paper and display the chart in the classroom to review later.

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Repeated readings of the same book provide opportunities for young children to develop a sense of competence and confidence with the text. Each time children have a book reread to them, they learn concepts of print, become more familiar with vocabulary, gain deeper understanding of the story, and make text to self connections. Read *When I Miss You* for several days in a row and use the ideas, activities, and teaching opportunities listed below to enhance children’s enjoyment and comprehension of the story.

GELDS Activity Spotlight

- Art** Using the art easel or collage materials to create a picture or collage to give to a family member or friend. **CD-CR2.4a**
- Writing Center** Provide picture word cards for family, friends, and emotions for children to use. Encourage children to use lined paper, cards, and envelopes to create a letter or drawing to the family member or friend that they miss. **CLL9.4c**
- Calm Down Area** Add blankets, stuffed animals, familiar books, paper, and crayons to your calm down area. Remind children that when they miss someone, they could try what the guinea pig does in the book: go to a cozy area and snuggle with a blanket, read a book, or draw a picture to take home. **SED3.4b**
- Small Group** Discuss feelings and talk about feeling sad, lonely, happy, excited, scared, and angry. Create a chart about when you have those feeling and what you can do. **SED2.4b**

Focus on Family

Ask families to provide pictures or materials of what activities they do while their children are at school. You might add some different career pictures to discuss with the class. Use the pictures or materials to create a visual chart or poster to display in the classroom.

Ask families to create an All about Me collage for each child to have displayed in the classroom. If a child is missing a family member they can go look at the pictures from the collage.

