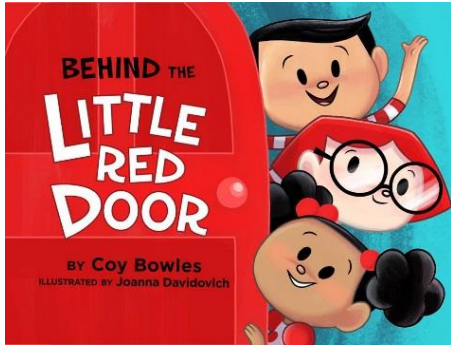




# SEEDS for Story Time

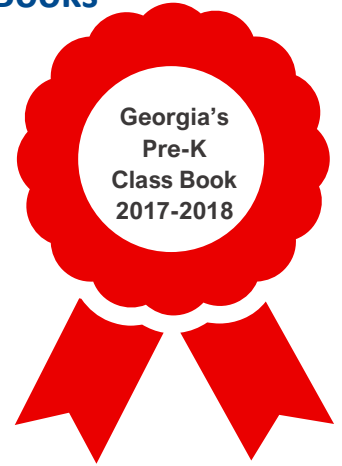
## Promoting Social Emotional Development Through Books



### *Behind the Little Red Door*

By Coy Bowles

**T**hree friends set out to discover what's behind the little red door. This book encourages children to use their creativity and imagination to determine what's behind the little red door. Children will be transported through the door with whimsical text and clever illustrations. (Ages 3-6)



### Introducing this book to young children:



**CLL9.4c**

As you introduce the book and title, generate a discussion about what they think the three children are doing. Ask children what they think is behind the little red door. Chart their answers.



**CLL4.4c**

Use the story to explore and discuss the different doors in your community. Prior to reading this book, take pictures of different doors around the school and community. Use pictures of doors on different types of homes, buses, cars, garages, and familiar businesses (ex: grocery stores, doctor's offices, schools, etc.). As you show each picture, ask children about the doors, "Have you ever seen a door like this?" or "What do you think is behind this door?"



**CLL 8.4e**

Before you read this book, introduce the terms title, author, and illustrator to the children. Sing this song to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell":

The author writes the words

The author writes the words

Hi-ho the dairy-o the author writes the words. The illustrator draws the pictures

The illustrator draws the pictures

Hi-ho the dairy-o the illustrator draws the pictures.

Show the book cover and point to the title, then to the names of the author and illustrator. Use the author's and illustrator's names in the song as a review each time you read the book.



**APL 4.3a**

Add a picture of various doors to different rectangular unit blocks. Encourage the children to incorporate these doors in their block play by asking questions like: "What do you think we will find behind this door?" "How are these doors alike?" or "How are they different?"

# SEEDS for Story Time

Repeated readings of the same book provides opportunities for preschoolers to develop a sense of competence and confidence. Children learn to point at and label pictures, turn pages, discuss the story, and make predictions of what will happen next, while learning new words and relating the story to their own experiences. Read *Behind the Little Red Door* for several days in a row and use some of the ideas, activities, and teaching opportunities listed below to enhance social and emotional skills.



## GELDS Activity Spotlight

### Blocks

Provide a variety of boxes such as small and large cereal boxes and packing boxes in the block center. Provide scissors, tape, and markers to allow the children to create whatever they like. Put a copy of the book (or pictures from the book) in the Block Center to spark their creativity. Encourage children to save their creations and expand on them over time. Take pictures and create your own class story, *What's Behind This Door?* [CD-SC54a](#)

### Small Group

Have the children draw a map of the school/center on butcher paper as a group. The map should include things such as classroom locations, the doors, the playground, the cafeteria, and other places you visit. Ask open-ended questions about what they might find in these different locations. [CD-SS3.4a](#)

### Art

Cut pictures of a variety of doors from magazines or print them from the internet. Include a wide range of colors and types of doors. Show one of the pictures and ask children to describe something they might find behind that particular door. Do this with two or three examples. Then let children choose a door and draw a picture of what would be behind the door. Write down their dictation. Staple the door to their illustration so that it opens and reveals what's behind. [CLL4.4C](#)

### Dramatic Play

Create a red door in your dramatic play area. Before going to centers, generate a discussion about what will happen behind the little red door today. You can provide prop boxes about pond life and space to match the themes in the book. Encourage children to create their own scenarios of what will happen behind their red door. [APL4.3a](#)

## Focus on Family

While walking around the community or while running errands ask families to encourage their child to look for doors. Talk about how the doors are the same and different (some may open automatically, have knobs or slide). [CD-MA4.1b](#)

Cut out small red doors using construction paper. Send one door home with each child. Encourage families to have their child hang the door somewhere in their home using tape. Make a copy of the book available for check out and send home a few open-ended questions families might use to talk with their child about what's behind their door. Follow up at school by asking the child where they placed their door and what they think is behind it. [CLL 4.4a](#)

