



Foundational Skills

In addition to reading the numerous high-frequency words in the text, this book also supports the development of foundational skills.

Phonological Awareness: The /th/ sound

Oral Blending: Say the beginning and ending sounds of the following words and ask your child to listen to the sounds and say the whole word:

/th/ + ink = think	/th/ + in = thin	/th/ + umb = thumb
/th/ + ing = thing	/th/ + imble = thimble	/th/ + ick = thick
/th/ + ank = thank	/th/ + ump = thump	/th/ + ird = third

Phonics: The letter Tt

1. Demonstrate how to form the letters **T** and **t** for your child.
2. Have your child practice writing **T** and **t** at least three times each.
3. Ask your child to point to the words in the book that start with the letter **t**.
4. Write down the following words and ask your child to circle the letter **t** in each word:

three	not	the	thumb	kitten	with
father	little	want	with	tap	sit
kite	top	Tom	two	take	this

Fluency: Choral Reading

1. Reread the story with your child at least two more times while your child tracks the print by running a finger under the words as they are read. Ask your child to read the words he or she knows with you.
2. Reread the story aloud together. Be careful to read at a rate that your child can keep up with.
3. Repeat choral reading and allow your child to be the lead reader and ask him or her to change from a whisper to a loud voice while you follow along and change your voice.



Language

The concepts, illustrations, and text help children develop language both explicitly and implicitly.

Vocabulary: Synonyms

1. Write the following words on separate pieces of paper:

little	miniature	tiny	wee	bitty	teeny
huge	gigantic	large	enormous	colossal	immense

2. Read each word to your child and ask your child to repeat it. Explain whether the word means big or small.
3. Fold a sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Draw a line down the middle of the paper. Write the words **small** and **big** at the top each column.
4. Mix the words up. Point to a word and ask your child to read it. Provide clues if your child needs them. Ask your child to place the word in the correct column under the synonym for the word.



Reading Literature and Informational Text

To support comprehension, ask your child the following questions. The answers either come directly from the text or require inferences and discussion.

Key Ideas and Detail

- Ask your child to retell the sequence of events in the story.
- How does Tom Thumb take a bath?

Craft and Structure

- Is this a book that tells a story or one that gives information? How do you know?
- Do you think Tom Thumb was scared of the giant?

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- What things would you like to do if you were as small as Tom Thumb?
- What kinds of animals can give rides to people?