

The Carrot Seed

by Ruth Krauss

A story about a little boy who plants a carrot seed and waits for the seed to grow.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Who can tell me what a carrot looks like?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the seed will really grow into a carrot?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *The Carrot Seed*

- seed: a flowering plant's unit of reproduction
- carrot: a thin tapering orange-colored root eaten raw or cooked as a vegetable
- afraid: scared or frightened
- weeds: a wild plant that grows where it is not wanted
- sprinkled: to scatter small drops over the surface of something
- nothing: not anything

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Carrots are a healthy vegetable. What vegetables do you like?
- Did you know that carrots are good for your eyes? Do you eat lots of carrots?
- Why did everyone keep saying that the carrot seed would not come up?
- What would happen if the little boy did not water his carrot seed? Or if he didn't pull the weeds?
- What made the carrot seed grow?

Do

Carrot Tops

Cut off the top of a carrot and place it in a shallow dish of water. Observe what happens day to day. Given time, the top of the carrot should sprout.

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