INTRODUCE THE BOOK

Before students begin to read, prepare them for a successful first reading of the story. Familiarize them with the plot, important concepts, new words, and language structures in the book. Begin by providing a brief synopsis of the book.

SYNOPSIS OF THE STORY

This book teaches us about Hurricane Katrina and what happened to the family pets when the storm hit New Orleans.

BEFORE STUDENTS BEGIN TO READ YOU MIGHT SAY:

1 “Look at the Table of Contents. What do you think you might learn about in this book?”

2 “Look at the pictures and think about what might happen in this book.”

3 “On page 6 it says, Many people evacuated their homes when they heard about the hurricane.”

4 “There is a Glossary on page 28. You will find new words and what they mean there.”

READ THE TEXT

After you look through the book together, have the students begin to read. Encourage the students to read the entire book in a soft reading voice. Listen to the students’ reading, and prompt for and/or praise strategic processing. See Prompting Guide K for reading behaviors to observe and support.

DISCUSS AND REVISIT THE TEXT

Start a conversation about the story. Encourage students to make connections to their own experiences and/or other stories they have read. Engage the conversation by asking students to make predictions, inferences, and connections to personal experiences or other stories. Stay away from questions that can be answered with “yes” or “no.”

YOU MIGHT ASK:

• “What are some things you learned about Hurricane Katrina that you did not know before?”
• “What are some things people did to help the dogs that went through Hurricane Katrina?”