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 is about Puerto Rico.

BEFORE STUDENTS BEGIN TO READ YOU MIGHT SAY:

1 “On page 2, the book tells us that Puerto Rico is an island and it is in the Caribbean Sea.”

2 “On page 4, it says, The island of Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States. A territory means that Puerto Rico is a part of the United States.”

3 “On page 6, we learn that explorers visited the island. Christopher Columbus and Juan Ponce de Leon were explorers that visited the island long ago.” Show the students the word explorer.

4 “On page 8, we see that it is warm in the winter, so many people from the north like to visit the island.”

5 “Lots of things grow in Puerto Rico. On page 13, you can see sugarcane. We get sugar from sugarcane.”

6 “Look at pages 14-15. Puerto Rico is a beautiful place.”

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 I 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 liked about Puerto Rico?”
• “What are some things you didn’t know about Puerto Rico before reading this book?”