

Fun with *The Clever Boy and the Terrible, Dangerous Animal*

- * First, read the story together with your child. You might feel more comfortable listening to the CD together the first time you read this book. If the CD is not available, read with expression, make special voices for characters. Kids love this!
- * After you have read or listened to this story together, talk about it with your child. There are lots of things in this story that you can talk about, for example:
 - What part did he or she like best, and why is that? Each time you read the story, you can repeat this question. Your child's answer may change.
 - The town's people were afraid of the watermelon because they didn't know what it was. Has your child ever been afraid of something because he didn't know what it was? What was it? What did you do?
 - Does your child think that the clever boy was afraid? Why or why not?
 - Can one person, even a child, make a difference in the way things turn out?

These kinds of questions have no wrong answers! They will encourage your children to think about the story in their own way and help them feel confident about expressing themselves.

Visit a Grocery Store

- * Go to the grocery store with your child and look at the different types of melon in the fruit and vegetable area.
- * Ask your child to describe the different types of melons by color, shape, size and compare them to each other.

Rhyming Words

- * Make a list of some of the words in the story and ask your child what words rhyme with each. They don't have to be real words!

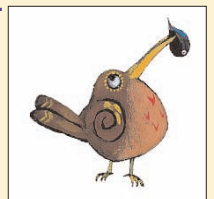
WATERMELON - sellon, fellow, cappertellen, mistavellen, etc.

BOY - toy, joy, soy, coy, ploy, decoy

EAT - beat, cheat, veat, neat, seat, greet, complete

BRAVE - grave, nave, crave, behave, concave

SEED - bleed, creed, need, greed, read



IN YOUR HOME AND OUT IN THE WORLD

Plant a seed and watch it grow!

* Like the clever boy, you can teach your child how to plant a seed such as an avocado seed.

- Remove the avocado seed from the center of the avocado.
- Holding its pointed side up, stick four toothpicks in the seed and suspend it over a drinking glass.
- Put water in the glass so that the seed is half covered.
- Keep putting water in the glass when it evaporates.
- When the seed produces roots, plant it in a flowerpot with loosely packed dirt, and watch it grow.
- Remember to water the plant.



* Experiment with other seeds that you have in your house such as olive pits, cherry, apricot, peach, lemon, lime, pumpkin, etc. You may want to check your local children's library for books on how to plant and nurture other seeds.



Visit your local library - it has hundreds of books for children of all ages!



Visit a park or garden with your child

- * Take drawing materials, such as pencils, pens, markers, crayons or pastels.
- * Have your child draw a favorite plant, flower, tree, or shrub.
- * Return over several months to see if the plant has changed.
- * Encourage your child to draw the favorite plant, flower, tree, or shrub several times and compare the drawings for similarities and differences.
- * Display the drawings on the wall at a height that lets your children enjoy their work, too!