**How to Teach a Slug to Read**

Author: Susan Pearson

Illustrator: David Slonim

Look at the title page with the children and say: “What is this boy doing? I wonder why the slugs are looking over his shoulder at the book.” Now read the title and run your finger under the words.

This book is most useful for **print-referencing**. It will be helpful if you point to the words when you read them because the print is all over the page. Decide ahead of time on one or two aspects of print that you will focus on during your reading session and put sticky notes on that page to remind you. You can point out speech bubbles, titles of books, rhyming words and how words are pronounced (as the book does for #6 ‘Help your slug sound out words.’

**Activity:** On the page that says ‘8. Let your slug underline his favorite words in slug slime’. Ask the children to point to one of the underlined words and read it for them.

**Activity:** Once you have read the book with the children several times, tell them there is a list of things to help a slug learn to read. Point to the numbers each time you see them.

**Discussion questions:**

* “Why did these slugs want to learn how to read?”
* “Can slugs really learn how to read?”

You could focus on slugs as a topic for science or while going for a walk.

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