**Pancakes, Pancakes**

Author: Eric Carle

Read the title and run your finger under the words. This story is about making pancakes.

**Activity:** You could then ask some questions that relate to the story:

* “Have you ever helped your mom or dad make pancakes?”
* “Do you use a frying pan like in this book? I wonder what they will use in this story”
* “What do you like to put on your pancakes?”
* “At your house, you probably have all the things you need to make pancakes right in your kitchen cupboards. But Jack didn’t have all those things. He had to go and find them.

**First page** – “What time of day is it? How do you know? The sun is coming up because it is morning.”

**Page with Jack at the table** – “Jack’s mom says he needs flour. Do you know where flour comes from? Let’s find out.”

**Page with the donkey** – talk about a ‘sickle’ and point it out in Jack’s hand. “He uses the sickle to cut down the wheat. It’s a sharp tool. He cuts the wheat and takes it to the mill. The miller is the person who works at the mill and helps grind wheat in to flour. Grind means to rub the wheat really hard until it turns into powder…. that’s what we call flour.

 **Page with mill and waterwheel** – explain the flail and explain threshing….”getting the wheat kernels off the stem. Jack is going to keep all the little kernels to make flour and they will not use the stems of the wheat.”

**Page with the waterwheel and millstone** – explain ‘millstone’ and how “it turns around and grinds the wheat kernels into flour.”

**Page with the chicken coop and dog** – explain that ‘grain’ “is another word for wheat kernels. Jack can feed those to the chickens.”

**Page with the cow** - Before you start to read, ask the kids “What else do you think Jack will need to make a pancake? That’s right. He needs some milk.” Explain ‘squirted’ – when the milk comes out really fast like when you use a squirt gun to spray your friend with water. The water squirts out.

**Page with the butter churn** – talk about how to ‘churn’ milk into butter. “Churn means mix it and stir it over and over until the milk turns into butter.”

**Page with the cellar** – explain ‘cellar’ as “a cool basement where they kept food. They didn’t have a fridge to keep food cold so they kept it in the cellar.”

**Page with Jack eating** – “Jack had to work really hard to make his pancake. Do you remember some of the things he had to do to get the ingredients? Do you think it was worth it? Would you work that hard to make one pancake? Why was it so much work for Jack and it’s easy for us to make pancakes?”

Funded by: Living SJ

Created by: The Early Childhood Services Coordinators and the Talk with Me Team

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