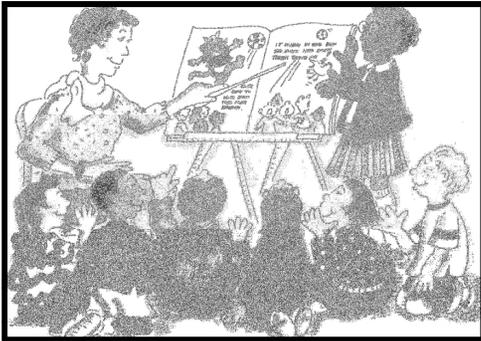


## What is Shared Reading?

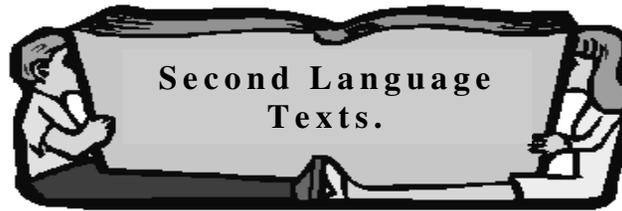
*Shared Reading is an **enjoyable, co-operative, interactive** reading activity based on the bedtime story experience. Ideally the text used will be a large format or **big book**.*



*A typical shared reading lesson.*

## Brief History.

***Don Holdaway**, aware of the power of story reading to children, developed **Shared Reading** in New Zealand in the 60's. He explored the use of **Big Books** as a method of teaching reading which has since raised **Literacy standards** worldwide.*



*"...the literature must be on the side of the second language child..."*

Key features of a **second language** text include:

- \* Predictable.
- \* Rhythmic.
- \* Repetitive
- \* Interactive.
- \* Visually attractive.
- \* Short and simple story line.



[www.wordpool.co.uk](http://www.wordpool.co.uk)

check out the big books section where you will find book reviews and links to the Amazon website for purchasing.

[www.ukchildrensbooks.co.uk](http://www.ukchildrensbooks.co.uk)

the most comprehensive online list of authors, illustrators and publishers of children's books.

[www.hubbardscupboard.org/read\\_write\\_sing\\_lesson\\_ideas.html](http://www.hubbardscupboard.org/read_write_sing_lesson_ideas.html)

lots of practical activities for popular shared reading stories.

## Shared Reading Tips for Teachers.



*"...the desire to read is not born in a child. It is planted by parents and teachers."*

J.Trelease

Fíodhna Hyland

©



## Methodology

Holdaway's Natural Learning Classroom Model is a suitable Shared Reading methodology for second language learners. It consists of:

- **Demonstration :**

- \* *Teacher* - directs, demonstrates, models, explains, questions, initiates and guides exploration.
- \* *Learners* - observe demonstrations and absorb the feeling of being in a literate community.

- **Participation :**

- \* *Teacher* - induces active involvement within the class. Reading is shared at this stage.
- \* *Learners* - participate, negotiate meaning co-operatively and question.

- **Practice :**

- \* *Teacher* - enables, supports and encourages children to dominate the reading.
- \* *Learners* - practice being a reader, gain personal competence in using the skills of literacy, self-regulate by taking personal responsibility for application, and correction.

- **Performance :**

- \* *Teacher* - rewards, monitors and records new increments of skill.
- \* *Learners* - share, perform, dramatize, display new increments of competence and experience the powers and joys of literacy.



## Techniques

There are **seven** essential techniques for the implementation of shared reading in a **second language environment**.

1. **Big Book Technique.**

This technique models skills and strategies, verbalises and makes evident the choices a reader makes, encourages and sustains discussion about the text.

2. **Pointing.**

This technique helps match the spoken with the written word by drawing the children's attention to print. It aids directionality of print and one to one correspondence.

3. **Masking.**

Using post-it notes to cover initial sounds/words, this technique encourages children to use other cues like picture and contextual cues to predict what the words might be. It teaches the eye, voice, ear link which makes print intelligible.

4. **Innovation on structure.**

This technique involves borrowing or changing the structure slightly to personalise it.

Examples include :

- \* Spot my mistake
- \* Put the children in the story.
- \* Compose a different beginning / ending.
- \* Change adjectives / nouns.



## Techniques

5. **Cloze Procedure.**

This technique, otherwise known as "gap filling" can be written or oral. Children predict the missing words, phrases, sentences or story line.

6. **Musical technique.**

Children can depend on rhyme and rhythm in language learning.

Examples include :

- \* Chanting and clapping sentences.
- \* Using percussion instruments to keep the rhythm of the text while some children read aloud.
- \* Clap on a focused word.
- \* Using pitch : reading in a monotone, high pitched, low pitched.

7. **Resource Technique.**

This technique involves making and using resources that will enhance the Shared Reading experience.

Examples include :

- \* Using a story bag, filled with props to stimulate further language development.
- \* Using puppets to increase dialogue in shared reading lessons.
- \* Using the overhead transparency as a supplement to big books.