

Identifies Front and Back of a Book		
Understand	Definition	Every book has a front and a back. Being able to identify the front of a book helps us know where to begin reading. Generally, we read books from the front page to the back page.
Prepare	Why readers need this skill Secret to success	<p>Beginning readers learn that moving from the front to the back of a book as you read helps the story make sense. Determining the front and back of a book also helps us know how to hold a book correctly.</p> <p>It is important to know that the front of the book is the beginning, where you start. The back of the book is the end, where you finish.</p>
Teach	How we teach it	<p>To be successful at this skill, children first need to know the meaning of the terms <i>front</i> and <i>back</i>. This can be reinforced by playing a simple game where the children move their bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in front of the chair and in back of the chair, in front of the table and in back of the table, in front of the rug and in back of the rug, in front of your friend and in back of your friend, and in front of the book and in back of the book. <p>Before beginning the lesson, draw an <i>O</i> on each child’s left hand. Explain that this is their “opening hand.” Next, share that good readers know how to open a book correctly. This helps them find the beginning of the story. Demonstrate how when you use your opening hand to turn the front cover, you can see both pages. Then turn the book over and open the back cover with your opening hand. Point out that your arm is covering some of the page, so this is the back of the book. Also, if you start reading at the back of the book, you are at the end of the story. Have children practice opening their own books correctly.</p> <p>Children who have had significant lap time being read to often internalize this skill without needing explicit teaching.</p>
Support	Instructional Pivots	<p>Possible ways to differentiate instruction</p> <p>Babies and toddlers often hold books upside down and/or backward. While reading a book to a child, pick up a book incorrectly. Process out loud what needs to be done to hold the book correctly. “Let’s turn the book over so we can see the front of the book. Now we can find the beginning of the story. We are ready to read.”</p> <p>Assess children individually by handing them a book upside down or backward. See if they return the book to its correct position. Reteach if necessary.</p>