BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

Get a Hit, Mo! by David A. Adler

Book Summary

"Swing the bat...Whoosh!...Strike 1...Whoosh!...Strike 2...Whoosh!...Strike 3...You are out."

Mo loves baseball. But as the youngest and smallest player on his team he always bats lasts and barely does anything at all. Despite all odds, Mo keeps trying, pays attention to the other players as they hit the ball, and learns to swing to the pitches that are "just right".

Before Reading the Story

- Look at the cover of the story and make predictions about what the book will be about.
- Flip through the pages and focus on the pictures. Discuss what you see happening, the characters' emotions, and the setting.
- Have you ever played baseball? Or seen a baseball game? Tell me about it.

Target Vocabulary

- **home run:** when a baseball player hits the ball really far and runs all the way around the bases and back to home plate without getting out
- **swing:** when a player moves the bat to try to hit the ball
- **right field:** part of the baseball field that's out in the grass on the right side when you're standing at home plate
- **runs:** the points a team scores in baseball
- **strike out:** in baseball when a player tries to hit the ball but misses three times, or doesn't swing at good pitches three times

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During the Story

- Read the book aloud with the pictures facing your child.
- Make predictions about the story based on the pictures.
- Provide definitions and connections for any of the target vocabulary words that may be unfamiliar.
- Have your child repeat the words that they do not know.
- Relate the details in the story to events and experiences in your everyday life.
- Ask questions throughout the story to help your child understand what's being read.

After Reading the Story

- Have your child re-read the book in their own words using the illustrations.
- Flip through the pages and focus on the pictures. Discuss what you see happening and the characters' emotions. How do you think Mo feels at first when he is having a hard time hitting the ball? What does he do? Have you ever tried something that was really hard? What did you do?
- What would you say to Mo if you were on his team?
- Draw a picture and write an encouraging statement for Mo or someone else who is learning something new.

Example Questions to Ask

- Look at Mo compared to his teammates, what do you notice? How do you think Mo feels?
- Mo will bat last. He always bat lasts. He will play right field. He always plays right field. Do you think Mo like going last? Do you think Mo likes playing right field?
- Have you ever played a sport or game in which your team was losing? How did you feel?
- What does Mo do as he watches his teammates swing the bat? Do you think this is a good idea? Why?
- Do you think Mo will be able to hit the ball next time?
- How does Mo feel at the end of the story?