Get clues from the letters in the word. This is similar to “sound it out.” Help children use this clue by pointing to the letters and saying, “Look at this letter. What does that letter sound like?”

Listen to how the sounds and words fit our language. Prompt children to, “Listen to the sentence as you read it. Does that sound right to you?”

Consider what would make sense given the context provided by the text. Challenge children to, “Think about the story. What word would make sense right there?”