

## LISTEN TO LIST: Describe Settings

**Overall Goal:** Help readers learn to listen and look at graphics so that they can describe a setting in a book.

**Materials:** Pizza Places book / CD

### **Before Reading Activity:**

Tell students, "Stories have *settings*. That means locations, or places where the actions happen. Let's talk about the settings where YOU have been today."

- *Model:* "Let's see . . . this morning I was at my HOUSE." (showing word card, or modeling on communication device)
- *Prompt:* A facilitator could whisper ideas in the student's ear, use a squeeze flashlight, etc
- Make a list of settings (kitchen / bedroom / bus / classroom / playground) on chart paper for everyone to see
- Re-read the list; for Unity users, point out patterns (e.g., "Hey! Lots of these words start with the icon PLACE")

Clear Purpose for Reading / Listening: "Listen and look at the pictures so that you can tell me all of the *settings* in the story, so we can draw a map."

**During Reading:** Read the story. Stop only two or three times to remind students . . . "Remember, you're listening and looking to find settings so that we can draw a map." (point to the list). Don't get into a long discussion but stop once or twice to model your thinking "Hey, look at this picture. This might be a good setting for our map." Or, "Listen carefully to this page. You might hear another setting for our map." Be sure not to stop too often, so that students hear a fluent reading of the text.

### **After Reading:**

Ask students to work as a group to make a list all of the details about the setting that they can remember.

- Write the list on chart paper.
- Teachers and paras can model occasionally, but should NOT overfacilitate.
- Accept all answers.
- Re-read the list.



Now go back to the book, and turn to selected pages.

- Ask students, "Can you help me find a clue to the setting on this page?"
- Give evaluative feedback. For example, if student points to photo of the park, say, "You're right Manuel, we can get clues about the setting from the pictures." Or "RESTAURANT. Right. Can someone help me find the page with the restaurant?"
- Use the setting words to draw a map, with student input.