



# Interactive Read Aloud

with CLASS® Concepts

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# Welcome to Teachstone's Interactive Reading Guide with CLASS<sup>®</sup> Concepts

## How to use the guide:

This guide is meant to help you enhance the experience of reading with children. The ideas in the guide will help you make the most of story time, supporting children's learning and engaging with them in a meaningful way.

When planning for story time, begin by reading the book. Then, read this guide. Choose the ideas you think will be most helpful based on what you know about the children you are reading to. It is not recommended that you use all of the ideas in the guide at once, as this may disrupt the flow of the story.

## What is CLASS<sup>®</sup>?:

CLASS stands for the Classroom Assessment Scoring System. Developed in 2008 at the University of Virginia, it is a research-driven tool used to improve how teachers interact with children every day to cultivate supportive, structured, and engaging classroom experiences.

The CLASS framework is divided into three domains: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support. Each domain is subdivided into several dimensions. This guide offers suggestions on using strategies from each of the CLASS dimensions listed below.

### Emotional Support:

Positive Climate (PC)  
Teacher Sensitivity (TS)  
Regard for Student Perspectives (RSP)

### Classroom Organization:

Behavior Management (BM)  
Productivity (P)  
Instructional Learning Formats (ILF)

### Instructional Support:

Concept Development (CD)  
Quality of Feedback (QF)  
Language Modeling (LM)

## COVER:

Look at this cover, what in it looks familiar? Yes, crayons, what do you use crayons for? What do you think the story is about if we see crayons on the cover? Let's make some predictions. Let's see, the title of the book is "Red: A Crayon's Story", it seems that we are on track with our predictions. The author and illustrator are the same person, Michael Hall, what does that mean that the author and illustrator are the same person? Wow, he is very talented, writing stories and making drawings, he is also an artist. (CD, LM, RSP)

## AS TOLD BY ME:

Look, this pencil is saying "As told by me". Can pencils really talk? So, is this a fiction story or a real story? Why is it fiction? Ok, let's see what the pencil will tell us in this fiction story. (QF)

## HE WAS RED:

Is this crayon red? What's red about it? Why do you think it says "He was red?" Let's see the next page. (LM)

## BUT HE WASN'T VERY GOOD AT IT:

What did red draw? Yes, a blue fire engine. How do you know it is a fire engine? And look, Olive, who is red's mommy, says "Oh dear". What do you think is wrong? What? Red colors blue? That's silly, could it be a magic crayon? How can Red color blue? Let's find out, shall we? (QF, RSP)

## HIS TEACHER THOUGHT HE NEEDED MORE PRACTICE:

Scarlet is Red's friend, what is she trying to do? Yes, she is encouraging him to try with her help. Tell me about times that your friends have helped you, and that you have helped your friends, how does that make you feel? (PC)

## BUT HE COULDN'T REALLY:

What did they draw? Yes, Scarlet drew scarlet strawberries and Red, some blue strawberries, wait a minute, have you ever seen blue strawberries? I wonder what they taste like, what do you guys think? (CD, LM, RSP)

## HIS MOTHER THOUGHT HE NEEDED TO MIX WITH OTHER COLORS:

Why are they saying that they can color orange? Have you ever mixed yellow and red? What was the result? Yes, orange. (CD)

## BUT THEY MADE A BIG GREENISH ONE:

What, it came out green, how come? Yes, when you mix yellow and blue, we get green. But look, Red is feeling disappointed. Why do you think he feels that way? He is trying so hard to color red, ha? (QF, TS)

## HIS GRANDPARENTS THOUGHT:

Grandma and Grandpa are worried that he is cold so they give him a scarf to wear when he draws his self-portrait. What is a self-portrait? Yes, a drawing of yourself. So, what happened? His name is Red but the self-portrait is blue. (LM)

Let's revise what's happening. He is a crayon, the paper surrounding him is red, and the name on the paper is Red. So, all the other crayons expect Red the Crayon, to color red, right?, but so far, what color is he able to color? Yes, blue... I wonder what is happening? What do you guys think? Shall we find out? (LM)

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## EVERYONE SEEMS TO HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY:

Look at all these pretty colors, and these names, some of them are so fancy. I have never heard of 'Cocoa Bean', it makes me think of chocolate, yummy.

(LM)

## BUT HE DIDN'T CATCH ON:

Red kept drawing blue drawings, and the other colors drew the color they are expected to color. How do you think Red is feeling? Still trying so hard to color red but able to do blue? (LM)

## ALL THE ART SUPPLIES WANTED TO HELP:

They are trying to fix Red with all these ideas, should this work? Why or why not? (LM, RSP)

## BUT EVEN WITH ALL OUR HELP:

Look at all these pretty blue drawings Red has done. (PC)

## ONE DAY HE MET A NEW FRIEND:

Wow, how do you think this new friend will be able to help Red? Let's see. (CD)

## SO HE DID:

Red was encouraged by the new friend Berry who invited him to try, and look what happened...Red drew a blue ocean. Is the ocean blue? How do we know the ocean is blue? (QF)

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## AND HE DIDN'T STOP THERE:

What else did he draw that was blue? And after all those pretty drawings, he realized that he was Blue. (LM)

## HE WAS NOT RED, HE WAS BLUE!:

How are the other colors feeling now about Red? How do you think Red is feeling knowing that he was Blue all along? What else do you think he wants to do now that he has found his real identity? What does identity mean? Yes, the way you feel and look at yourself. (LM)

## END REFLECTION:

Have you tried so hard to do something before and it seems just impossible? How have you solved your struggles? Who did you reach out to help you? How did that make you feel? (LM, CD)

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Learn more about how CLASS<sup>®</sup> can help your program improve teacher-child interactions at [www.teachstone.com](http://www.teachstone.com) or give us a call at 877-401-8007.