Parts of a Book

Skills Category  Recognizing title, author, illustrator and reviewing parts of a book

Grade Level  1st

Time Required  5 -- 10 minutes

Objectives  Students will identify the title, author, illustrator, cover and spine of a book.

Materials Needed  4 Picture Books

Preparation  Read through procedure and select picture books.

Procedure  Review:
Hold up a picture book and ask for a volunteer to come up and point to the cover of the book. Remind students the cover of the book protects the pages. Next, ask for a volunteer to come up and point to the spine of the book. Ask how many know what the title of a book is then ask if someone would like to share the title of a book he/she has read. Remind students the title will be on the front cover of the book and on the spine of the book.

Explain that there are two parts to a picture book. First, there is the story, or the printed words. Open the picture book, hold it up, and point to the printed text. What do you call the person who writes the story? (An author). Confirm: “The author writes the story”.

Tell students that a picture book has something else besides words. Open picture book, hold it up and show students a page with illustrations on it. Ask students what else they see in the picture book. (Pictures). Confirm: “Yes, there are also pictures. These pictures are called, ‘illustrations.’” Have students say “illustrations” with you. The person who paints or draws the pictures is called an “illustrator.” Have students say “illustrator” with you. Tell them the name of the illustrator for the picture book you are showing them.
Using three other picture books as examples, point out the title, author and illustrator of each book. Ask the students if they like the pictures the illustrator has painted or drawn for each book. Ask them what they like or dislike about the illustrations.

To conclude, ask the students what the person who writes the book is called (author), and what the person who draws or paints the pictures in the book is called. (illustrator).

When checking books out to students, use the words “title,” “author,” and “illustrator” when commenting on the book. Use these terms as well when reading aloud to students.

Example:
The title of the book I am reading today is. . .
The author is. . .
The illustrator is. . .