Community Helpers

By Sally Francis Anderson
Many people in the community are helpers.
The doctor helps us stay healthy.
The police officer helps to keep us safe.
The firefighter helps put out fires.
The teacher helps us learn.
The plumber helps fix the pipes.
The librarian helps us find good books.
I want to help my community too.
This book is designed to help your child develop the beginning-reading skills that are an essential aspect of learning to read. These skills, called concepts-of-print skills, include starting at the front of the book, turning pages from left to right, understanding that the marks on the page are words and sentences that tell the reader what to say, and tracking these words from left to right on the page.

Your child may memorize the simple, repetitive text in the story and appear to be reading. This prereading success will help your child think of himself or herself as a reader.

To help your child, discuss unfamiliar words in the story as you read, encourage your child to think about what might happen next, and have your child use clues in the pictures to tell what the story is about.

A visit to your local library will allow your child to choose books to take home and read with you, creating another opportunity to practice these beginning-reading skills.
This is one of a series of concepts-of-print books developed by the Success for All Foundation to help young children explore theme-related ideas. These engaging books build children’s enjoyment of books, their vocabulary, and their understanding of how printed words and pictures communicate meaning.

The Success for All Foundation programs for young learners provide children with experiences that foster the abilities and attitudes necessary for their success in the primary grades. These programs support the development of children’s language, literacy, math, science, interpersonal, and self-help skills.