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We Can Communicate was developed under the direction of Robert E. Slavin and Nancy A. Madden, codirectors of the Success for All Foundation family of programs.

The mission of the Success for All Foundation is to develop and disseminate research-proven educational programs to ensure that all students, from all backgrounds, achieve at the highest academic levels.

These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

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I can write a letter.
He can listen to the radio.
She can sign with her hands.
He can read a newspaper.
She can talk on the telephone.
They can watch TV.
I can write an e-mail.
We can communicate.
Before your child reads the book to you, ask her to tell you the name of the book. Invite her to explain what the two children on the cover are doing.

Ask your child to show you the photographs in the book. Talk about the different ways the people in each photograph are communicating.

As your child reads, ask her to point to the words. Encourage her to sound out some words. Remind her that she can use the clues in the photographs to help her figure out any unknown words.

After reading, help your child communicate with a friend or relative by writing a letter, e-mailing, or calling someone on the telephone. Encourage your child to listen for the letter sounds she knows as she writes.

Have family members join in a game of “Telephone.” Everyone should sit a circle. Think of a phrase. Whisper the phrase to the person on your left. He whispers what he heard to the person sitting next to him. It continues until the person on your right whispers to you. It is not very often that the phrase is the same as you started the game with. It is funny to hear how things change along the “telephone” line.

Visit the library and look for other books about communication.
This is the student version of We Can Communicate, one of a series of SFA Big 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.