General Questions to foster oral language using any books read by teacher or students:

- Retell the story (with beginning, middle, and end) (Eventually with main character, setting, and events)
- Pick 2 stories that you have read and compare them. How are they the same? How are they different?
- Change the story in some way: "I wonder if…"
- What would the story be like if it was told by another character in the book?
- Do any stories remind you of something that you have experienced?
- Do any stories remind you of anything your friends or family have experienced?

The following Student Discussion Questions can be used in whole class discussions or partner sharing. There are no right or wrong answers. The questions encourage imagination, using previous knowledge or experiences. They reinforce communication and cooperation skills by sharing personal ideas as well as responding to others' ideas, listening and taking turns, explaining a reason for an answer, and answering in complete sentences. When the student is forming an explanation, they decide upon the appropriate words to express their thoughts and also determine if others would understand. An explanation can't start with 'because' since the audience needs to know the topic.

Student Discussion Questions for each story:

Bk1 I Can!

- What are some things people jump over?
- Why might the child be hiding?

Bk2 Black Cat

- What other animals have some black fur or hair on them?
- If you could be a cat or a dog, which would you be? Why?

Bk3 A Snack

- Which meal do you like the best: breakfast, lunch, or supper? Why?
- What do you like as a snack?

Bk4 2 Pals

- Why do you think the kid wanted to run laps?
- Which would you rather do right now: run a lap or have a nap? Why?

Bk5 Len and Ken
- What would you bring on a picnic?
- What other insects visit you when you have some food or a drink outside?

Bk6 I Will Help!
- Where else can we find water?
- The hen flapped up a bit, but hens can't fly. Why not?

Bk7 My Dog
- What could you throw that a dog would run and get?
- If you could be a dog, would you be a small one or a big one? Why?

Bk8 My Dog Will Help!
- Do you think the dog did help to find the missing things?
- What are some other things in the house that a dog might want to collect in its basket?

Bk9 Duck!
- Many ducks fly south (migrate) for the winter. Why?
- Other animals sleep (hibernate) during the winter. If you were an animal, which would you like to do: migrate south or sleep all winter?

Bk10 Duck and Pup
- Why can the pup dig faster than the duck?
- Why do you think some dogs like to dig holes?

Bk11 Pat the Kid
- What animal would you like to have as a visitor to your school?
- Which animals do you think like to be patted? Which ones don't?

Bk12 Here is…
- What other food gets cooked in a pan?
- Children like playing with big boxes. What could you pretend the box to be?

Bk13 Mac Was a Sad Lad
- What makes you sad?
- What makes you happy?

Bk14 Come and Look!
- If you lost something, who would you ask to help you? Why would you ask them?
- Have you ever lost something and found it? What happened?

Bk 15 Little Ben-Ben's Baby
- Why did the Mom and Dad say "Sh" to Ben-Ben?
- Why was Ben-Ben excited to hold the baby?

Bk16 The 'a' Jumped Out!
- When do people use maps?
- In what kinds of weather do kids need hats?

Bk17 Who Will Win?
- What other things can you build with snow?
- Which do you like better: summer or winter? Why?

Bk18 They All Had a Wish
- Would you rather ride a bike or a horse? Why?
- Would you rather go on a big ship or a small boat? Why?

Bk 19 Where Are They?
- Why do you think the dogs found their owners so easily?
- Is it better to play Hide-and-Seek inside or outside?

Bk20 Best Tricks
- Quickly stand on one leg. The one you chose is your strongest side. Now stand on your other leg. Try it with your eyes closed! Do you think you will get better with practice?
- Why do you think it's hard to pat your head with one hand while rubbing your tummy with the other? Is it harder to do when you switch hands?