Hello my Cherry Hill friends, this is Michelle Dowd, the Literacy Teacher Coach at Richard Stockton Elementary here with today’s reading tip.

Good readers use different strategies when they come across tricky words in the text that they don’t know. It’s important that as a good reader you stop and say to yourself, “What could this word be?” and “What strategies can I use to figure it out?”

When you come across a tricky word, here are some that you can try. Try using contacts or even the pictures to help you figure out what that tricky word is. Ask yourself, “What would make sense?” or look for clues in the pictures that can help you. Another strategy that you can try is try chunking the sounds in the letters together. Look for familiar patterns and parts within the word that you may recognize and try breaking it apart and putting that word back together. Always remember though to go back to go back to the beginning of the sentence so that you have the full meaning. Last thing that you can try, is to skip the word and come back to it.

As you are reading and you come across a tricky word, put your finger on that tricky word, read to the end of the sentence and come back to it. Try to cross check it by looking at that initial sound and ask yourself, “What would make sense that starts with that initial sound?” It’s important to know that all readers get stuck on a word sometimes but it’s good to have strategies that you can try to figure it out. So, as you are reading don’t forget to stop at those tricky words and take time to get lost in a book this summer.