Whistle for Willie by Ezra Jack Keats:
Supporting Dual Language Learners with Focus Word Visuals

Introducing the focus words with visuals, a child-friendly definition, and connecting the word in English to the word in the home or first language briefly before beginning a START read supports dual language learners' story comprehension and vocabulary learning. In this resource, you will see the focus words translated into Spanish in red. In parentheses, you will see the phonetic pronunciation of this word in Spanish. Use tools like Google translate to listen to the word in Spanish before sharing to practice the pronunciation. If children in your classroom speak another home or first language than Spanish, ask colleagues or families how to translate the focus words or use online tools to look up the words in this language.* ***Instructions**: Print this document and cut out the focus words before sharing the story with your children. We suggest introducing them before the STATE of the START read. You can say something like, "before reading our story, I want to share some special words you are going to hear in this story." Don't quiz children; just quickly introduce the words and begin the START read.*

Attention/ Atención (ah-ten-see-own) - when you notice something

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Determined/ Decidido(a) (des-ih-dee-dough) - really wanting to do something and not giving up until you do it

Imitate/ Imitar (im-ee-tar) - to act like someone else, to copy

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Proud/ Orgulloso(a) (or-gew-yo-so) - feeling pleased and happy with something you have done

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