You will notice that these tips promote two child development principles: Serve and Return and Executive Function skills.

Serve and Return, like game of ball, involves a back and forth conversation between you and your child where you listen, then build on and extend what your child says or does to promote learning.

Executive Function skills are skills you use to manage your attention, your feelings, your thoughts and your behavior to reach your goals. They include being able to pay attention, remember information, think flexibly and exercise self control.

Find more about Families and Work Institute’s Mind in the Making at www.mindinthemaking.org.

TIP:
Pauline and her little brother John-John have a goal to have a lemon-limeade stand, even though it’s winter. Nothing stops them from working toward their goal—including their parents’ warnings that nobody will want cold drinks in the middle of winter.

Ask your child how important it is to have goals, even goals that other people say are undoable. Have them think about their other experiences as well as the story in this book.

SKILL:
One of the principles of promoting Self-Directed Engaged Learning is helping children set and then work toward goals. Executive Function skills are driven by goals.

TIP:
When the children don’t sell much, they come up with many new marketing ideas. Ask your child what else might Pauline and John-John have done to sell their lemon-limeade.

SKILL:
Another principle of promoting Self-Directed Engaged Learning is to elaborate and extend what children do.

TIP:
Ask your child:
- "What did Pauline and John-John learn about money from this experience?"
Include how much they spent and how much they earned.

SKILL:
Still another principle of promoting Self-Directed Engaged Learning is helping children practice, synthesize and generalize.

TIP:
You can share a story or ask your child to share a story about a time he or she had fun and worked well with someone else.

SKILL:
The brother and sister created their own learning community by working together and learning from each other.