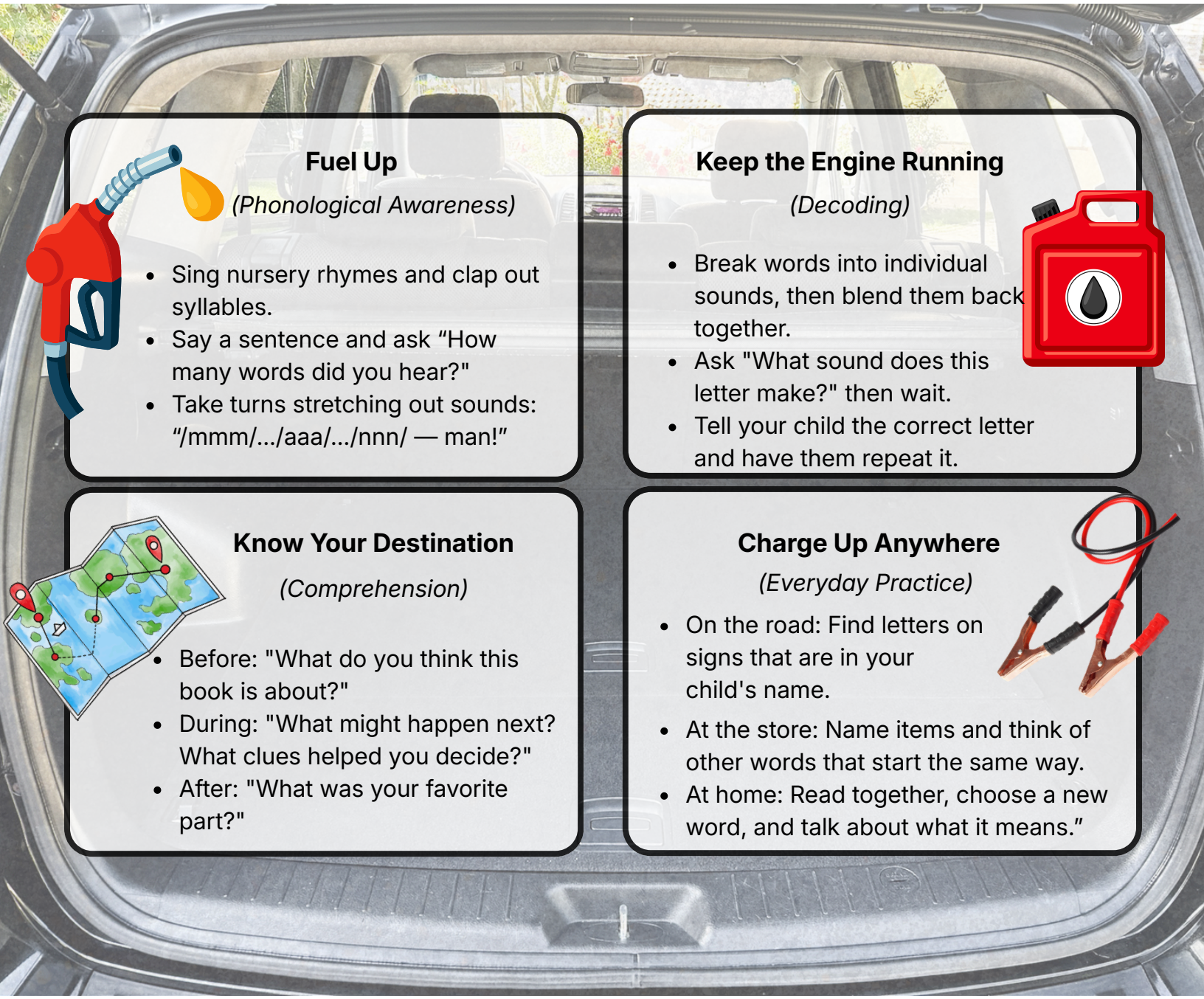
THE RIGHT GEAR

ROUTE TO READING

A TOOLKIT FOR READING SUPPORT

Every good road trip means being prepared. As a caregiver, you already have everything you need to support your child's reading, at home and on the go.



Fuel Up

(Phonological Awareness)

- Sing nursery rhymes and clap out syllables.
- Say a sentence and ask “How many words did you hear?"
- Take turns stretching out sounds: “/mmm/.../aaa/.../nnn/ — man!”

Keep the Engine Running

(Decoding)

- Break words into individual sounds, then blend them back together.
- Ask "What sound does this letter make?" then wait.
- Tell your child the correct letter and have them repeat it.

Know Your Destination

(Comprehension)

- Before: "What do you think this book is about?"
- During: "What might happen next? What clues helped you decide?"
- After: "What was your favorite part?"

Charge Up Anywhere

(Everyday Practice)

- On the road: Find letters on signs that are in your child's name.
- At the store: Name items and think of other words that start the same way.
- At home: Read together, choose a new word, and talk about what it means.”

National Center on Improving Literacy

For more free literacy resources, visit improvingliteracy.org.

The research reported here is funded by a grant to the National Center on Improving Literacy from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, in partnership with the Office of Special Education Programs (Award #: H283D210004). The opinions or policies expressed are those of the authors and do not represent views of OESE, OSEP, or the U.S. Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by the Federal government. Copyright © 2026 National Center on Improving Literacy.