

Reading Ideas

As a parent the most important thing you can do to ensure your child continues to make progress as a reader is to allow him or her time to read. This time will help your child build reading comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary. You can support your child by establishing a routine and designating a specific time for your child to read for at least 20 minutes every day. In addition to giving your child time to reading, below are additional ideas to encourage your child to practice reading skills at home.

HELPING KIDS SELECT BOOKS TO READ

- Reading the back
- Reading the flap
- Reading the first page - an interesting lead can reel us in
- Reading the first few pages
- Reading the table of contents
- The title
- The length
- The level
- Flipping through the pages
- Reading the last page
- The pictures
- The cover
- The author
- The subject
- The series
- The genre
- Recommendations
- **Just Right Book** - Raise five (5) fingers. Each time the child gets to a word they don't know put down a finger. If all five (5) fingers go down the book is too hard.
- Questions to teach your child to ask:
 - Can I read most of the words?
 - Is it interesting?
 - Does it give me something to talk about and think about?

Strategies That Work by Harvey and Goudivis

TALK...TALK...TALK

Take the time to discuss the book that your child is reading. This will improve their understanding of the book. Below are questions to guide your discussion:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS TO SUPPORT UNDERSTANDING OF THE BOOK

- What in the book makes you say that?
- How do you know?
- What makes you think that?
- How did you come up with that?
- Where in the book did you get that idea?
- What is the author trying to prove?
- What kind of proof does the author use?
- What are you thinking?
- What do you want to know more about?
- What does that remind you of?

The most important thing is that you are having a conversation with your child about the book he or she is reading.

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READING LOGS

A simple spiral notebook can be used as a reading log. Your child can record their thinking about the book as they read.

HOW TO USE A READING LOG

The best advice is to keep it simple. Your child can respond to what they are reading in words or illustrations. They can begin a list of words they do not know. They can rewrite the ending to the book etc.

You will want to review the work they have done in their journals and let the work guide your conversation with your child.

WEBSITES

Dogo News	www.dogonews.com
Giggle Poetry	www.gigglepoetry.com
NEWSELA	http://newsels .com
Sports Illustrated for Kids	sikids.com
Toon Book Reader	www.professorgarfield.org/toon_book_reader
Wonderopolis	wonderopolis.org
Martinsburg Public Library Tumblebooks - online library (to find, scroll down to the bottom of the website to find the link)	www.mbcpl.org

EVERYONE ENJOYS A GOOD READ ALOUD

READ ALOUD TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Pick a book that you enjoy yourself.
- Preview the book ahead of time.
- Introduce unknown words, author, and illustrator and read their names every time you read a book.
- Encourage making predications:
 - Before you read a book, “what do you think this book is going to be about?”
 - While you read “what do predict is going to happen next?”
 - When you finish, “Was your prediction right””
- Model your thinking out loud.
- Use expression (change your voice/show excitement) when reading.
- Read at good pace (not too slow or not too fast)
- Encourage your child to make mental pictures of what is being read.
- Have meaningful discussions before, during and after you read.
- Rereading books is great for understanding and word building.

