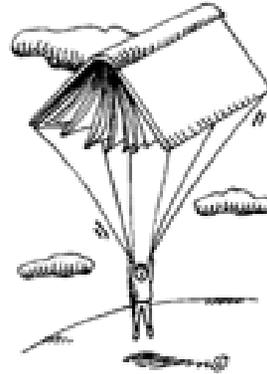


Talking to your child every day ... as you eat together, shop for groceries, walk to school, or wait for a bus.

- “Tell me about your favorite part of school today? What happened?”
- “What did you and your friends do at recess? “Tell me more.”
- “This is very interesting! I can see you put a lot of effort into this work. What did you learn here?” (a response to papers sent home from the preschool/daycare/classroom)
- Share conversations about school events, friends, books, and favorite activities.

Use car time to talk with your child about family, friends, and upcoming family events.

- Tell your child about your day.
- Involve your child in conversations about family events, friends, and activities.
- Find out what your child would like to do with you for an hour on a Saturday.

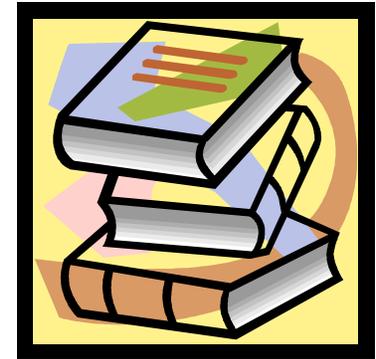


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Our Mission

To ADVOCATE for all students by PROVIDING a learning environment which EMPOWERS students, staff, and the community to MAXIMIZE their personal, creative, and academic potential in order to BECOME lifelong learners and responsible world citizens.

Tips for Parents of Emerging Readers



Keeping the love of Reading, Writing, and Communication alive!

As a parent, you make a significant difference in your child's learning.

Set aside a regular time to read to your child every day.

- Pick a regular time and develop the "reading aloud habit."
- Read magazines and newspapers together.
- Surround your child with books and reading material.

Create a family library with a special section for your child's books:

Alphabet Books	Picture book with text
Wordless Picture books	Your favorite picture books
Rhyming books	Predictable books
Information books with realistic pictures and photographs	

Tips for reading with your child.

- Read books you like. Share the books you loved when you were a child. Keep a list of books you and your child read.
- Use the language of questioning with your child.
 - "I wonder..."
 - "Tell me more..."
 - "Why?"
 - "That was a great question. Do you have any more?"
- Be sure to give your child lots of time to think about an answer. No need to rush.
- Remember it is OK to sometimes let questions go unanswered.



Before reading, ask questions about the cover of the book, and look at the pictures in the story.

- "What do you think might happen in this story?"
- "What do you think this story is about?"
- "Remember the time we/you...?" (with a picture of something your family or child has experienced)

While you are reading, stop along the way to talk about the story.

- "What do you think might happen next?"
- "Why do you think that?"
- "What's important to remember so far in the story/book?"
- "Did you see a favorite word?" "Where is it?"
- "Why do you think (the character) did that?"
- "Why do you think the author used a particular word?"
- "Does this remind you of _____?" Fill in something in the text related to your child's experience.
- "Tell me what you think about when you hear _____ or see _____ in the book." Help your child to make a connection between the story or information in a book and the child's own thinking.

Remember to ask questions about the particular story you and your child are reading.

Talk about the meaning of a new work by using the pictures or story situation.

After your child has listened to the story, talk about it. Let your child see how questions and answers about a story increase the child's understanding.

- "Did you like the story?" "Why or why not?"
- "What happened first, next, and last in the story?"
- "Why do you think the author wrote this book?"
- "Which character did you like best?" "Why?"
- "I wonder..."
- Do you have any questions now that the story is finished?"
- "Is there a part of the story that didn't make sense?"

Make regular visits to the public library to check out books.

- Ask the resource librarian for a list of books related to your child's interests.
- Look through the display of new and featured books at your child's level.
- Attend "Story Time" and other library events for children.

Suggestions for book selection:

Rhyming Books	Fairy Tales
Poetry Books	Song Books
Predictable Books	Picture Books with text
Information Books	Your favorite picture books
Children's Magazines	

Be a reader and writer. Let your child see you reading and writing.

- Write notes to your child as reminders of chores.
- Read aloud product labels, signs, and menu items.
- Write in a personal diary or journal. Let your child know what you are doing.
- Help your child write messages on greeting cards.
- Encourage your child to help you make shopping lists.

Writing activities to do with your child.

- Together write important reminders and events on the family calendar.
- Write a note to a family member on a family message board. Have your child dictate the words.
- Write down child's dictation for captions or short description of a drawing.
- Help your child keep a weather journal. Your child can record the date, temperature, and weather conditions. Encourage your child to add a drawing.
- Help your child create a picture book made with drawings; pictures cut from magazines. Help label the pictures with words dictated by your child.