

READ USA PARENT GUIDE

Literacy Activities & Reading Support



Conversation Prompts

Conversation starters for reading with your child.



BEFORE READING the book, ask...



WHILE READING the book, ask...



AFTER READING the book, ask...

FICTION BOOKS

- · Why did you choose this book?
- · What story clues are in the title/illustrations that tell you what this story could be about?
- Have you read another book similar to this one? Tell me about it.
- Based on the title or book cover, what problems do you think the main characters might face? What are some possible solutions?

- What has happened in the story so far?
- What do you think will happen next? What clues did you use to make that prediction?
- What do you think about this character's actions? What connections can you make with this book to your own life?
- If you were one of the characters in the story, who would you choose to be? Why?
- Did the story end how you thought it would?
- What is another way the story could have ended, or the problem could have been solved. Tell me why?
- Would you choose to read another book by this author? Why or why not?

NON-FICTION BOOKS

- Why did you choose this book?
- What do you already know about this topic (or person)?
- What do you think you might learn about this topic (or person)?
- What questions would you like to ask the author before reading?

- What important information have you read about so far?
- What do you still want to know about?
- What have you read that is surprising or new?
- How are the text features helping you understand the book?
- · How does this connect to you and your life?

- · What did the author teach you?
- What does the author want you to know about this topic (or person)?
- What do you still want to know about this topic (or person)?
- What was the most interesting part of this
- What topic will you read about next to learn more?





Activities to Promote Literacy Growth

Interactive, multisensory activities for children.



Sounds, Letters, and Words



Comprehension



Writing

GRADES PK-1

- Help your child learn the names of the letters and the sounds the letters make. Turn it into a game! "I'm thinking of a letter, and it makes the sound mmmmmm."
- Point out rhyming words and find other words that rhyme.
- Have your child point out letters and familiar words that they have been practicing.
- Have your child participate in dramatic play where they take on imaginary roles (chef, doctor, teacher).
- Visit your local libraries, museums, and parks with your child to help cultivate new experiences that will build their background knowledge.
- After a read aloud, one way to check for understanding is to ask your child to summarize what the book was about in their own words.
- Involve your children in your writing activities. Make a shopping list together and point out the words that start with the same letter as the child's name.
- Ask your child to draw a picture of a family activity and then help them write a sentence about it below the picture.
- Ask your child to write out labels for the rooms and objects in your house. Don't worry about spelling! Help your child safely tape them up for display.

GRADES 2-5

- Ask your child to find words with Greek and Latin roots.
 For example: biology -bio means life. Biology means the study of life.
- Point out a word and ask your child for a synonym or antonym that goes with the word.
- Use the word to determine shades of meaning. For example: afraid, frightened, scared, fearful, panicked, terrified.
- Help your child generate questions before and during reading. Then help them answer their questions using information from the book.
- When reading with your child, have them close their eyes and think about what happened in the story. See if they can imagine the scenes the book described. Ask them, "If you were making a movie, what would you see from behind the camera?"
- Draw a map of the book's setting and be sure to include the places where the main action happens!

- Have your child keep a daily journal on what they did during the day, what is going on around them and what they think about these topics.
- Have your child write shopping lists, chores, letters, and to-do lists.
- Instead of having your child write on their own, collaboratively write together. Share different ideas to create a collaborative writing sample.

Family Reading Log

Date	Book Title	Author	Genre (circle one)
			fiction non-fiction poetry



Practicing your child's foundational reading skills significantly helps them master grade-level reading and better prepares them for the next school year.

Together, you and your child can be a READER LEADER FAMILY!