

## The Dictionary Game

Working with reference books like a dictionary is important to learning about words.

### What you'll need:

\* Paper, pencil, a dictionary, and the list of questions given below, each written on a separate piece of paper.

### What to do:

\* Fold each question in half and put them all in a hat. Ask your child to read a question and then use the dictionary to answer it.

- Is a burnoose the cousin of a moose?
- Can you bustle, hustle, and jostle at the same time?
- Is a hog likely to hog all the hogmeat?
- How much bread is there in breadfruit?
- Is it possible for a fowl to have a jowl?
- Can a gnu be a guru to a few?
- Is a lingbird likely to linger long on a clothesline?
- Are calligraphy and otography the same?
- Can you abandon an abalone?
- Can an ermine be a hermit?
- Explain why we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway.
- Can a sphinx put a jinx on you?

\* Once your child answers these questions, ask your child to develop some questions for you, using challenging words from the dictionary.

## My Turn, Your Turn- -Our Story

Writing stories is fun, but it really comes alive when your child creates and writes a story with you.

What you'll need:

\* Paper, pencil, and a story title.

What to do:

\* Create or choose an exciting title for a story you would like to write with your child, such as "The Golden Eye" or "Suddenly Midnight and Silence." Write the title on a sheet of paper and invite your child to write the first sentence. You write the second line. Take turns writing sentences until the story is complete.

\* When the story is finished, invite the family to a story-reading session, or read the story to the family during dinner.



## Favourite Writers

Children who read a great deal often have favourite writers. These writers become favourites because of clever ways they use language or special story lines they develop.

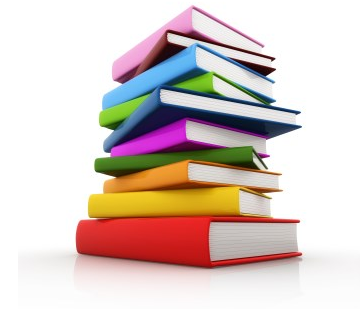
What you'll need:

\* Several books by your child's favourite writer. A notebook.

What to do:

\* Have your child check out from the library several books by a favourite writer. As your child reads each book, have the child jot down in a small notebook interesting phrases, or sentences, and special observations the author makes.

\* Skim one or more of the books yourself, and read to your child some phrases you like in the author's words.



## In Laughing Order: The Comic Strips

When children read about events, they must keep the major actions in order. Children can develop a sense for order while reading comic strips.

What you'll need:

- \* Your child's favourite comic strip.

What to do:

- \* Find a comic strip that you and your child enjoy. Before reading the strip, cut it out and separate the frames. Mix them up and ask your child to put the frames in the correct order. Once they are in order, have your child read the comic strip and tell you what the strip means or is saying. you know from the newspaper."



## Now You Hear It, Now You Don't

Hearing and saying the parts of words help prepare children to learn to read.

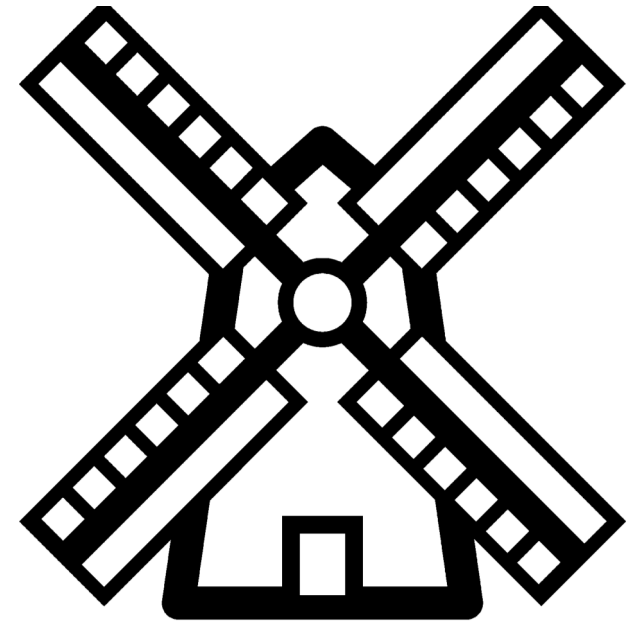
What you'll need:

- \* A list of words with two parts, like baseball, raincoat, sunshine, and motorcycle.

What to do:

- \* Sit beside your child. Tell the child that you will say a word and then you will leave off part of the word. Ask your child to tell you what part you left off. For example, tell the child, "Let's say sunshine without sun; what part is left? That's right, shine." Repeat this activity with another word: "Let's say motorcycle without motor; what part is left? That's right, cycle." "Now you try it. Say 'manhole' without man."

- \* As your child learns this game, try leaving off the last part of words (manhole without hole is man; motorcycle without cycle is motor).



## HOME READING GAMES

### LEAFLET 3

CAN  
YOU  
HEAR  
ME  
NOW?