



RAISING READERS

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READING ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD

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1. PREDICTING

Use the book's title and pictures as clues. Read the title aloud to your child and talk about the picture on the cover. Then you and your child can try to predict what will happen in the story.

How Will This Story End?

At an appropriate point in the story stop reading aloud and ask your child what he thinks will happen. After having a discussion, continue reading the story aloud to find out what happens.

2. GAMES FOR PARTICIPATION

Echo Reading

Read a phrase or sentence aloud to your child and have him/her repeat it after you. Read a part or the whole story this way.

Variation: Try different voices such as happy, silly, or angry voice. Again, read in that voice and have your child repeat each phrase or sentence.

Fill in the Missing Word

Read the story aloud and pause occasionally. When you pause, allow your child to supply the missing word.

Catch Me If You Can

This game is most appropriate with stories and poems with which your child is familiar. Read the story aloud and change some of the words. Have your child raise his/her hand each time you use an inappropriate word.

3. DISCUSSION STARTERS

Retelling

Using the pictures on each page as clues, allow your child to tell the story in his/her own words.

Different Endings

Together make up different endings to the story.

Favorite Parts

Ask your child to retell his/her favorite part of the story.

Reporter

Pretend you are two TV or newspaper reporters telling or printing a newspaper article about the story. Together think of answers to these questions:

Who was in the story? (characters)

Where/when did the story take place? (the setting)

What happened? (the plot)

Why/how did that happen?

Imaging Illustrations

Some situations or ideas in a story aren't pictured. Ask your child to illustrate one of these ideas or have your child describe a picture full of details using lots of language especially adjectives to fill you in.

4. WRITING OR DRAWING

Keeping a Notebook or Journal

You might jointly keep a notebook or a journal where you would print something about the book you've read. Perhaps your child would enjoy copying a favorite word or sentence.

Printing Your Own Story

Select the structure or "frame" from the story to develop your own story. For example

Once there were.....
Their names were.....
They wanted to.....

Together you can use a frame to print your own story.

5. Developing Vocabulary

As you are reading, you may meet a word that is unfamiliar to your child. You might plan to come back to it when you've finished the story and try some of these activities:

First read the sentence that contains the word. Then tell your child the word.

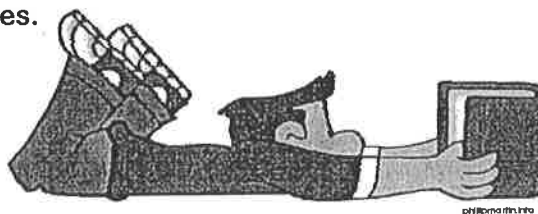
- Think of a word that means the same or almost the same as the word as it is used in the sentence.
- Think of a word that means the opposite if possible.
- Tell what picture it brings to mind.
- Act out the word if possible.

READING ALOUD TO YOUR CHILDREN

Reading aloud is a gift you can freely give to your children from the day they are born until the time they leave the nest. Children's reading experts agree that reading aloud offers the easiest and most effective way to help children become lifelong readers. It can also be as much fun for you as it is for your children.

A child whose day includes listening to lively stories is more likely to grow up loving books and wanting to read them. To spark this desire in your children, you may want to try some of these suggestions offered by Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), a national nonprofit organization that inspires youngsters to read.

- Set aside a special time each day to read aloud to your children. Fifteen minutes a day is an ideal time.
- Vary your selections. For very young children, look for picture books with illustrations and print that is simple, clear, and colorful.
- Read slowly and with expression. The more you ham it up, the more your children will love it. Try substituting your child's name for a character in the story.
- Have your children sit where they can see the book clearly, especially if it is a picture book.
- Allow time for your children to settle into the story, as well as time afterwards to talk about it.
- As you read aloud, encourage your children to get in on the act. Invite them to describe pictures, read bits of text, or predict what will happen next. It is even fun to dramatize the roles in the story or read lines of dialogue.
- Children like a sense of completion, so finish what you begin. If the book is lengthy, find an appropriate stopping point, such as the end of a chapter.
- Continue to read aloud to your children even after they begin school and are independent readers. There is no age limit to reading to your children.
- Teenagers may enjoy reading aloud to a younger sibling. They often like to revisit some of their old favorites.



FAMILY STORYTELLING

Since ancient times, storytelling has fired the imaginations of listeners of all ages in every corner of the world. Generation after generation, families have told stories to entertain, instill values, pass on traditions and express their hopes and dreams.

Storytelling is highly regarded as an important step toward developing children's literacy. When you tell your children stories, you are building their vocabularies, giving them a sense of how stories work and exercising their imaginations as they visualize the story.

A family rich in stories has a true legacy to pass along. Here are some suggested storytelling ideas from Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), a national nonprofit organization that inspires children to read.

- Choose an appropriate story for the audience. Make sure young listeners will be able to follow the plot, and that the story can be told within the limits of their attention span.
- Read or rehearse the story until you know it well.
- Tell stories you like. If you are not enthused about a story, your voice will give away your lack of interest. Remember that enthusiasm is contagious.
- Use colorful words. Rich, descriptive language will help your children visualize the story as it unfolds.
- Change your voice. Distinguish among the different voices of your characters by changing your own voice. Speeding up and slowing down or raising and lowering your voice can dramatize story action and mood also.
- Have your children participate. They can say the magic words at your cue, chant lines that repeat, or add sound effects. If you are making the story up as you go along, ask them to contribute.
- Use props. Simple household props can liven up a story and encourage children to retell it themselves. Children can also make their own stick or paper bag puppets.
- Tell it again! Like a favorite book, a good story can be retold over and over. In time, your children may want to tell the story themselves.

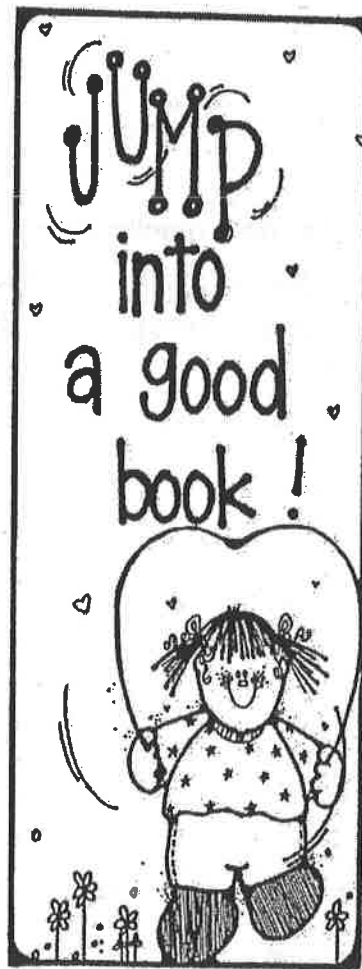
TIPS FOR SELECTING AND USING LITERATURE WITH CHILDREN

Families often ask teachers for help with book selections and about the development of reading skills. Many families are looking for a quick method to determine a book's appropriateness for their child's independent reading level. Comprehension checks and ways to enhance oral reading are also key areas of interest. May you find these suggestions useful as you discover the wonderful world of books with your family!

- Select books that appeal to your child's interest level.
- Use the five-finger test to help your child select books appropriate for his/her reading level. Encourage your child to choose a book that looks interesting, open it to any page and read. Each time your child comes to an unknown word, a finger is raised. Five unknown words on a page indicate that the book is probably too difficult for independent reading. Save the book to use at a later time or include it as a read aloud selection.
- Read books aloud to your child on a regular basis. Don't overlook chapter books! Primary grade children enjoy them as much as intermediate grade children.
- Provide opportunities for shared reading. In a shared reading, you take turns reading aloud with your child.
- Invite your child to read a favorite book to a younger sibling or friend.
- Use repeated readings with your son or daughter. Allow your child to practice the story as many times as needed for the development of fluency with oral reading.
- Record your child reading a favorite selection. Mail the tape to a distant relative or friend. The recorded story could also become a wonderful addition to a childhood memory box.
- Use echo reading. Read a short passage from a favorite selection and ask your child to reread it matching your fluency and expression.
- Read paragraphs alternately with your child. Provide guide questions for the paragraphs read aloud. Allow your child to ask questions also.



- Help your child summarize a story using these five questions:
 Who or what is the story about?
 When or where does the story take place?
 What happens first?
 What happens next?
 How does the story end?
- Invite your child to draw a picture illustrating a favorite scene or character from a story. Encourage your child to write a descriptive paragraph about it. Ask your child to read it to you.
- Encourage your child to create an advertisement for a favorite book.
- Invite your child to recommend three favorite books for you to enjoy!



Clip Art by Phillip Martin & Bookmark Clip Art by Dianne J. Hook
 Prepared by the Families and Reading Committee of the Keystone State Reading Association

Reading List: Preschool

Classics:

- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- *Corduroy* by Don Freeman
- *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson
- *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf
- *Frederick* by Leo Leonni
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin
- *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney
- *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey
- *The Lion and the Mouse* by Jerry Pinkney
- *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak

Newer Concept and Informational Books:

- **Little Green Peas: A BIG Book of Color* by Keith Baker
- **Circle, Square, Moose* by Kelly Bingham
- **Counting Lions: Portraits of the Wild* by Katie Cotton
- **Some Bugs* by Angela Diterlizzi
- *Explore My World: Penguins* by Jill Esbaum
- *Everything I Need to Know Before I'm Five* by Valorie Fisher
- **Go, Shapes, Go!* by Denise Fleming
- **I Spy in the Sky* by Edward Gibbs
- **Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?* by Rita Gray
- *Animal Opposites* by Peter Horacek
- *Arf! Beg! Catch! Dogs from A to Z* by Henry Horenstein
- *You Are (Not) Small* by Anna Kang
- *Alphabet Everywhere* by Elliott Kaufman
- *National Geographic Little Kids: Ocean Counting* by Janet Lawler
- *Flight 1-2-3* by Maria van Lieshout
- **Have You Seen My Dragon?* by Steve Light
- **Tap the Magic Tree* by Christie Matheson
- *Animals and Their Families* by Barbara Nascimbeni
- *Everything to Spend the Night from A to Z* by Ann Whitford Paul
- *I Wish I Had a Pet* by Maggie Rudy
- *100 Things That Make Me Happy* by Amy Schwartz
- **Sesame Street Let's Cook* by Sesame Workshop
- *A Year with Friends* by John Steven
- *The Shape of My Heart* by Mark Sperring
- *Little Humans* by Brandon Stanton
- *The Odd One Out* by Britta Teckentrup
- *Green Is a Chile Pepper* by Roseanne Greenfield Thong

- *Look What I Can Do!* by Nancy Viau
- **Adventures with Barefoot Critters: An ABC Book* by Teagan White
- **Hey, Seymour!* by Walter Wick
- **Bear Sees Colors* by Karma Wilson
- *Where Does Kitty Go in the Rain?* by Harriet Ziefert

Newer Picture Books:

- *Little Big Boubo* by Beatrice Alemanga
- *Is That My Cat?* by Jonathan Allen
- *A Kiss Means I Love You* by Kathryn Allen
- *Please, Mr. Panda* by Steve Anthony
- *Shark vs. Train* by Chris Barton
- *A Library Book for Bear* by Bonny Becker
- **Two Tough Crocs* by David Bedford
- *Snoozefest* by Samantha Berger
- *Fox Forgets* by Suzanne Bloom
- *Tap Tap Boom Boom* by Elizabeth Bluemle
- *Flashlight* by Lizi Boyd
- *Marc Brown's Playtime Rhymes* by Marc Brown
- **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to School...* by Davide Cali and Benjamin Chaud
- *Hug Machine* by Scott Campbell
- **The Nonsense Show* by Eric Carle
- *One-Dog Sled* by Mary Casanova
- *Nana in the City* by Lauren Castillo
- **The Sheepover* by John and Jennifer Churchman
- **Draw!* by Raul Colon
- *Little Elliot, Big City* by Mike Curato
- *We're Going on a Lion Hunt* by Margery Cuyler
- *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Pena
- **Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa* by Anna Dewdney
- *Gaston* by Kelly DiPucchio
- *The Lion and the Bird* by Marianne Dubuc
- *If You're a Monster and You Know It* by Rebecca Emberley
- *Rupert Can Dance* by Jules Feiffer
- **Stick and Stone* by Beth Ferry
- **Five Trucks* by Brian Floca
- **Tugboat* by Michael Garland
- **Red: A Crayon's Story* by Michael Hall
- **Shh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton
- *Bedtime for Bear* by Brett Helquist
- *Mother Goose Picture Puzzles* by Will Hillenbrand
- *Flora and the Penguin* by Molly Idle
- *Once upon an Alphabet* by Oliver Jeffers
- **Goodnight Already* by Jory John
- *This Is Not My Hat* by Jon Klassen
- **Sick Simon* by Dan Krall
- *This Is a Moose* by Tom Lichtenheld
- *Have You Seen My Dragon?* by Steve Light

Reading List: Preschool

- Eric Litwin
- *When the Monsters Are Quiet* by Alicia Lloyd
- *Hot Rod Hamster* by Cynthia Lord
- *Sort it Out!* by Barbara Mariconda
- **The Wonderful Things You Will Be* by Emily Winfield Martin
- *First Snow* by Peter McCarty
- *Shoe Dog* by Megan McDonald
- *A Perfectly Messed-Up Story* by Patrick McDonnell
- *Eddie Gets Ready for School* by David Milgrim
- *I Love You Just the Way You Are* by Virginia Miller
- *Baby Bear* by Kadir Nelson
- *Maple* by Lori Nichols
- **The Girl and the Bicycle* by Mark Pett
- **Druthers* by Matt Phelan
- **Number One Sam* by Greg Pizzoli
- *A Penguin Story* by Antoinette Portis
- *Everyone Can Learn How to Ride a Bicycle* by Chris Raschka
- *The Bear Who Shared* by Catherine Raynor
- *Here Comes Destructosaurus* by Aaron Reynolds
- *Blizzard* by John Rocco
- **A Great Big Cuddle: Poems for the Very Young* by Michael Rosen
- *Uni the Unicorn* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- **It Is Night* by Phyllis Rowand
- **Those Darn Squirrels Fly South* by Adam Rubin
- *Big Cat, Small Cat* by Ami Rubinger
- *Bear and Bee* by Sergio Ruzzier
- *Hannah's Night* by Komako Sakai
- *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* by Dan Santat
- *Little Tug* by Stephen Savage
- *I Got the Rhythm* by Connie Schofield-Morrison
- *Truckery Rhymes* by Jon Scieszka
- *Horton and the Kwuggerbug and More Lost Stories* by Dr. Seuss
- *Tilly the Trickster* by Molly Shannon
- *The Three Triceratops Tuff* by Stephen Shaskan
- *I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean* by Kevin Sherry
- *Three Bears in a Boat* by David Soman
- **I'm My Own Dog* by David Ezra Stein
- *Stripes of All Types* by Susan Stockdale
- **Construction* by Sally Sutton
- **Who Done It?* by Olivier Tallec
- *Let's Sing a Lullaby* by the Brave Cowboy by Jan Thomas
- *Ninja, Ninja, Never Stop!* by Todd Tuell
- **Polar Bear's Underwear* by Tupera Tupera
- **Max the Brave* by Ed Vere

Melanie Watt

- *Blue on Blue* by Dianne White
- **I Will Take a Nap* by Mo Willems
- *It's Duffy Time!* by Audrey and Don Wood
- **Found* by Salina Yoon
- *Chuckling Ducklings* by Aaron Zenn
- *The Big Blue Thing on the Hill* by Yuval Zommer

Magazines:

- Big Backyard
- Chickadee
- CLICK
- Highlights for Children
- Humpty Dumpty
- Ladybug: The Magazine for Young Children
- National Geographic Little Kids
- Sesame Street Magazine
- Turtle Magazine for preschool Kids
- Zootles

Educational Apps:

- ABC Mouse - leveled learning of letters, numbers, colors, songs, and stories
- *ABC Ninja - slash through given letters
- A Bee Sees (iOS) - learn letters, colors, and numbers
- Duck Duck Moose Reading (Apple) teaches letters, sounds, and words
- Endless Alphabet - teaches letters, letter sounds, and vocab
- Endless Reader - teaches sight words (like a sequel to Endless Alphabet)
- Feed Me! (iOS) - learn specific phonics, reading, and math skills
- Find It Match IT for Kids HD (iOS) - develop visual and memory skills
- iStory Time - narrated children's storybooks
- *Pat the Bunny (iOS) - interactive book
- Play & Sing - addresses letters, colors, shapes, sequencing, and animals
- *Phonics Island - levels of letter and phonics games
- Read to Me - introduces a new book everyday
- Reading Raven HD (iOS) - teaches letters and sounds
- *Sky Fish Phonics - teaches letter/ sound correspondence, blending sounds, and phoneme substitution
- Starfall - sounds, letters, words, and sentences with interactive games
- *The Book of Holes (iOS) - based on the book and includes a parents' page with clues
- *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore (iOS) - based on a film and book

Reading List: Primary Grades K-2

Classics:

- *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
- *Are You My Mother?* by Phillip D. Eastman
- *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox
- *Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey
- *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh* by A. A. Milne
- *Love You Forever* by Robert N. Munsch
- *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper
- *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter
- *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak
- *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss
- *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss
- *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss
- *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein
- *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig
- *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg
- *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams
- *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood

Newer Informational Books

- **The 50 States: Explore the U.S.A. with 50 Fact-Filled Maps!* by Gabrielle Balkan
- *Buried Sunlight: How Fossil Fuels Have Changed the Earth* by Molly Bang
- **Creaturepedia: Welcome to the Greatest Show on Earth* by Adrienne Barman
- **Marvelous Cornelius: Hurricane Katrina and the Spirit of New Orleans* by Phil Bildner
- *Frogs* by Nic Bishop
- *ZooBorns!: Zoo Babies from Around the World* by Andrew Bleiman
- **Ashley Bryan's Puppets: Making Something from Everything* by Ashley Bryan
- *Edward Hopper Paints His World* by Robert Burleigh
- *Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey* by Loree Griffin Burns
- *See What a Seal Can Do* by Chris Butterworth
- *Little Dog Lost: The True Story of a Brave Dog Named Baltic* by Monica Carnesi
- *Teeth* by Sneed Collard
- **Counting Lions: Portraits of the Wild* by Katie Cotton
- **Tiny Creatures: The World of Microbes* by Nicola Davies
- *Ballerina Dreams* by Michaela and Elaine DePrince

story of a wolf who braved bullying by Jim and Jamie Dutcher

- **The Scraps Book: Notes from a Colorful Life* by Lois Ehlert
- **Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music* by Margarita Engle
- **A Mom for Umande* by Maria Faulconer
- *Noah Webster and His Words* by Jeri Ferris
- **How to Draw a Dragon* by Douglas Florian
- *Grandfather Gandhi* by Arun Gandhi
- *Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?* by Rita Gray
- *The Tree Lady* by H. Joseph Hopkins
- **Creature Features* by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page
- **Born in the Wild: Baby Mammals and Their Parents* by Lita Judge
- *Arctic Animals* by Tori Kosara
- **Dozer's Run: The True Story of a Dog and His Run* by Debbie Levy and Rosana Panza
- *Bats Biggest! Bats Littlest!* by Sandra Markle
- *Wonder Horse: The True Story of the World's Smartest Horse* by Emily McCully
- *Gone Wild: An Endangered Animal Alphabet* by David McLimans
- **Tree of Wonder: The Many Marvelous Lives of a Rainforest Tree* by Kate Messner
- **Maps* by Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielski
- *Viva Frida* by Yuyi Morales
- *My Country, 'Tis of Thee: How One Song Reveals the History of Civil Rights* by Claire Rudolf Murphy
- **A Baby Elephant in the Wild* by Caitlin O'Connell
- *Who Would Win? Rhino vs. Hippo* by Jerry Pallotta
- **One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia* by Miranda Paul
- *Martin and Mahalia: His words, Her Song* by Andrea Pinkney
- *Mr. Lincoln's Boys* by Staton Rabin
- *Neighborhood Sharks* by Katherine Roy
- **Emu* by Claire Saxby
- **Raindrops Roll* by April Sayre
- *Lifetime: The Amazing Numbers in Animal Lives* by Lola Schaefer
- **Welcome to the Neighborhood* by Shawn Sheehy
- **Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova* by Laurel Snyder
- **Feathers: Not Just for Flying* by Melissa Stewart
- *About Penguins* by Cathryn Sill
- *A Place for Bats* by Melissa Stewart
- **Emmanuel's Dream* by Laurie Ann

Reading List: Primary Grades K-2

- *vaiker*
- **Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine* by Laurie Wallmark
- *Mama Built a Little Nest* by Jennifer Ward
- **Hey, Seymour!* by Walter Wick
- *A Zeal of Zebras: An Alphabet of Collective Nouns* by Woop Studios

Newer Fiction Books:

- **It's Only Stanley* by Jon Agee
- *My Grandfather's Coat* by Jim Aylesworth
- *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole* by Mac Barnett
- *Big Snow* by Jonathan Bean
- **The Princess and the Pony* by Kate Beaton
- **Quest* by Aaron Becker
- **Two Tough Crocs* by David Bedford
- *I'm Bored* by Michael Black
- *I Don't Want to Go to School!* by Stephanie Blake
- **Escape from Baxters' Barn* by Rebecca Bond
- *Maestro Stu Saves the Zoo* by Denise Brennen-Nelson
- *My Teacher is a Monster (No, I am Not.)* by Peter Brown
- *Have You Seen My New Blue Socks?* by Eve Bunting
- *Bird and Squirrel on Ice* by James Burks
- **This Book Just Ate My Dog* by Richard Byrne
- **A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to School...* by Davide Cali and Benjamin Chaud
- *Fox's Garden* by Princesse Camcam
- *The Mermaid and the Shoe* by K. G. Campbell
- **The Nonsense Show* by Eric Carle
- *Around the Clock* by Roz Chast
- **Recess Is a Jungle (Eerie Elementary #3)* by Jack Chabert
- *Magda's Tortillas* by Becky Chavarria-Chairez
- *The New Small Person* by Lauren Child
- **Big Bug* by Henry Cole
- **Draw!* by Raul Colon
- *Train* by Elisha Cooper
- *Max and the Tag-Along Moon* by Floyd Cooper
- *Henry and the Crazy Chicken Pirates* by Carolyn Crimi
- *The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies
- **The Day the Crayons Came Home* by Drew Daywalt
- **Pete the Cat's Groovy Guide to Life* by James Dean
- *A Dance like Starlight* by Kristy Dempsey
- *Bink & Gollie* by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee
- *Leroy Ninker Saddles Up* by Kate

- *Maria Had a Little Liama* by Angela Dominguez
- *Abuelo* by Author Dorros
- **Race the Wild #1: Rain Forest Relay* by Kristin Earhart
- *Henry's Map* by David Elliot
- **Eva's Treetop Festival: A Branches Book* by Rebecca Elliott
- **Stick and Stone* by Beth Ferry
- *Locomotive* by Brian Floca
- **The Farmer and the Clown* by Marla Frazee
- *Oliver and Patch* by Claire Freedman
- **The Most Wonderful Thing in the World* by Vivian French
- *Let's Do Nothing!* by Tony Fucile
- **This Equals That* by Jason Fulford and Tamara Shoppin
- *Hansel and Gretel* by Neil Gaiman
- *The First Drawing* by Mordicai Gerstein
- *Dragon's Extraordinary Egg* by Debi Gliori
- **The 39-Story Treehouse* by Andy Griffiths
- **Big Bad Detective Agency* by Bruce Hale
- *Princess in Black* by Shannon Hale
- *The Jacket* by Kirsten Hall
- **Dory and the Real True Friend* by Abby Hanlon
- **Fable Comics* by Charise Mericle Harper and Chris Duffy
- **Shh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton
- **The Bear Report* by Thyra Heder
- **Waiting* by Kevin Henkes
- *When Charley Met Grandpa* by Amy Hest
- *Tales of Bunjitsu Bunny* by John Himmelman
- *Happy Birthday, Babymouse* by Jennifer Holm and Matthew Holm
- *Dogs Night* by Meredith Hooper
- *Julia's House for Lost Creatures* by Ben Hotke
- *Jamal's Busy Day* by Wade Hudson
- *Wild* by Emily Hughes
- *Issun Boshi* by Ichinori
- *Puss & Boots* by Ayano Imai
- *Every Cowgirl Needs a Horse* by Rebecca Janni
- **Out of the Blue* by Alison Jay
- *This Moose Belongs to Me* by Oliver Jeffers
- *A Fine Dessert* by Emily Jenkins
- *Goodnight Already* by Jory John
- **Winter Is Coming* by Tony Johnson
- *The Princess Who Had No Kingdom* by Ursula Jones
- *Once Upon a Cloud* by Claire Keane
- *Trouper* by Meg Kearney
- *The Gingerbread Pirates* by Kirstin Kladstrup
- *Sick Simon* by Dan Krall

Reading List: Primary Grades K-2

- Latimer
 - **Shelter Pet Squad: Merlin* by Cynthia Lord
 - *White Fur Flying* by Patricia MacLachlan
 - **Mad Scientist Academy: The Dinosaur Disaster* by Matthew McElligott
 - *Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner
 - **Dolphin SOS* by Roy and Slavia Miki
 - **Chippy Chipmunk: Friends in the Garden* by Kathy Miller
 - *Sophie's Squash* by Pat Zietlow Miller
 - *The Gumazing Gum Girl!: Chews Your Destiny* by Rhode Montijo
 - *Nino Wrestles the World* by Yuyi Morales
 - **Zen Socks* by Jon Muth
 - **Hunters of the Great Forest* by Dennis Nolan
 - **The Book with No Pictures* by B. J. Novak
 - *What Brothers Do Best/ What Sisters Do Best* by Laura Numeroff
 - **Fancy Nancy: Nancy Clancy, Soccer Mania* by Jane O'Connor
 - **Amelia Bedelia Sets Sail* by Herman Parish
 - *Meet the Dullards* by Sara Pennypacker
 - *Night Sky Dragons* by Mal Peet
 - *The Girl and the Bicycle* by Mark Pett
 - **I Don't Want to Be a Frog* by Dev Petty
 - **Princess in Black and the Perfect Princess Party* by Shannon Hale
 - *If All the Animals Came Inside* by Eric Pinder
 - **Piper Green and the Fairy Tree* by Ellen Potter
 - *A Pirate's Guide to First Grade* by James Preller
 - *Daisy Gets Lost* by Chris Raschka
 - **Nerdy Birdy* by Aaron Reynolds
 - *Chopsticks: Not Exactly a Sequel to Spoon* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
 - **Robo-Sauce* by Adam Rubin
 - *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* by Dan Santat
 - **The Bear Ate Your Sandwich* by Julia Sarcone-Roach
 - *Nugget and Fang: Friends Forever- or Snack Time?* by Tammi Sauer
 - *Bits & Pieces* by Judy Schachner
 - *Princess Sparkle-Heart Gets a Makeover* by Josh Schneider
 - *Ninja Red Riding Hood* by Corey Rosen Schwartz
 - *Battle Bunny* by Jon Scieszka and Mac Barnett
 - *Memoirs of a Goldfish* by Devin Scillian
 - *Bully* by Laura Seeger
 - *Anna Carries Water* by Olive Senior
 - **Ballet Cat: The Totally Secret Secret* by Bob Shea
 - **Three Bears in a Boat* by David Soman
 - **Another Day As Emily* by Eileen Spinelli
 - **Lenny & Lucy* by Philip Stead
 - **I'm My Own Dog* by David Ezra Stein
 - *How to Hide a Lion* by Helen Stephens
 - *The Fox and the Crow* by Manasi Subramaniam
 - *Ball* by Mary Sullivan
 - *Rules of Summer* by Shaun Tan
 - **Hoot Owl, Master of Disguise* by Sean Taylor
 - *The Three Little Pigs and the Somewhat Bad Wolf* by Mark Teague
 - **The Very Inappropriate Word* by Jim Tobin
 - **Help! We Need a Title!* by Herve Tullet
 - *Outfoxed* by Mike Twohy
 - *Bad Bye, Good Bye* by Deborah Underwood
 - *Probudit!* by Chris Van Allsburg
 - **I am Yoga* by Susan Verde
 - **Hamster Princess: Harriet the Invincible* by Ursula Vernon
 - **What This Story Needs is a Pig in a Wig* by Emma Virjan
 - *A Long Way Away* by Frank Viva
 - **The Mouse and the Meadow* by Chad Wallace
 - **The Story of Diva and Flea* by Mo Willems
 - *This Is the Rope* by Jacqueline Woodson
 - **Orion and the Dark* by Emma Yarlett
 - **The Whisper* by Pamela Zagarenski
- Series Books:**
- *Cam Jansen* by David Adler
 - *Magic Bunny* by Sue Bentley
 - *Magic Kitten* by Sue Bentley
 - *Ivy & Bean* by Annie Barrows and Sophie Blackall
 - *Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans
 - *Clifford, the Big Red Dog* by Normal Bridwell
 - *Arthur* by Marc Brown
 - **Eerie Elementary* by Jack Chabert
 - *Cork & Fuzz* by D. Chaconas
 - *Pete the Cat* by James Dean
 - *Bink & Gollie* by Kate DiCamillo
 - *Duck & Goose* by Tad Hills
 - *Pinkalicious* by Victoria Kann
 - *Ballpark Mysteries* by David Kelly
 - *I Wonder* by Dorling Kindersley
 - *Ready Freddy* by Abbie Klein
 - *George Brown, Class Clown* by Nancy Krulik
 - *Frog and Toad* by Arnold Lobel
 - *Lulu* by Hilary McKay
 - *Fancy Nancy* by Jane O'Conner
 - *The Magic Tree House* by Mary Pope Osborne
 - *Amelia Bedelia* by Peggy Parish
 - *Junie B. Jones* by Barbara Park
 - *Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker
 - *Who Would Win?* by Jerry Pallotta
 - *Galaxy Zack* by Ray O'Ryan

Reading List: Primary Grades K-2

- *Henry and Mudge* by Cynthia Rylant
- *Splat the Cat* by Rob Scotton
- *Ladybug Girl* by David Somar
- **Dragon Masters* by Tracey West
- *Elephant & Piggie* by Mo Willems
- *Pebble Go Animals* by various authors

Poetry Books:

- *Orangutan Tongues: Poems to Tangle Your Tongue* by Jon Agee
- *We Go Together* by Calef Brown
- *Dogku* by Andrew Clements
- *Outside Your Window: A First Book of Nature* by Nicola Davies
- *On the Wing* by David Elliott
- *Seeds, Bees, Butterflies, and More! Poems for Two Voices* by Carole Gerber
- *Dear Hot Dog* by Mordcai Gerstein
- **Sail Away* by Langston Hughes
- *Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems* by Paul Janeczko
- *Poems to Learn by Heart* by Caroline Kennedy
- **Dear Wandering Wildebeest and Other Poems from the Water Hole* by Irene Latham
- **Everything Is a Poem: The Best of J. Patrick Lewis* by J. Patrick Lewis
- *I Didn't Do It* by Patricia McLaughlin and Emily McLaughlin Charest
- *Water Rolls, Water Rises* by Pat Mora
- *Hi, Koo!* by John Muth
- *National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry: 200 Poems with Photographs That Squeak, Soar, and Roar!*
- *Sometimes I Wonder If Poodles Like Noodles* by Laura Nummeroff
- **Bedtime Math: The Truth Comes Out* by Laura Overdeck
- *Santa Claus: Short Poems from the North Pole* by Bob Raczka
- **A Great Big Cuddle: Poems for the Very Young* by Michael Rosen
- *A Whiff of Pine, a Hint of Skunk: A Forest of Poems* by Deborah Ruddell
- *Water Can Be* by Laura Purdie Salas
- *A Pond Full of Ink* by Annie M. G. Schmidt
- *Winter Bees and Other Poems of the Cold* by Joyce Sidman
- *Every Thing on It* by Shel Silverstein
- *Food Trucks!* by Mark Todd
- *Forest Has a Song* by Amy Ludwig Vanderwater
- *Digger, Dozer, Dumper* by Hope Vestergaard
- **Beastly Verse* by JooHee Yoon

Magazines:

- Big Backyard
- Boy's Life
- Boy's Quest
- Chickadee

- Crinkies
- Highlights for Children
- Jack and Jill
- Kids Discover
- Ladybug: The Magazine for Young Children
- National Geographic Little Kids
- Nickelodeon
- Ranger Rick
- Spider: The Magazine for Young Children
- Stone Soup: The Magazine by Young Writers and Artists
- Zoobooks

Educational Apps:

- Booksy- download books
- Dyslexia Quest- enhances working memory, processing, visual memory, & sequencing
- Endless Alphabet- teaches letters, letter sounds, and vocab
- Endless Reader- teaches sight words (like a sequel to Endless Alphabet)
- *Epic – build an unlimited library of children's books
- iStory Time- narrated children's storybooks
- Kodable Pro (iOS)- a fuzz character follows sequenced directions that you write to complete mazes
- Little bird Tales (iOS)- take photos and record audio and use them to create a story
- *Making Words Kindergarten and First Grade- lessons that build phonemic awareness, phonics, and spelling skills
- My Story (iOS)- create a book with visuals and text
- *Phonics Make a Word 1- increase phonics skills by building short vowel words
- Reading Raven HD (iOS)- teaches letters and sounds
- RWT Timeline- create timelines, science experiment results, or instructions using photos and text
- Shadow Puppet (iOS)- create presentations with photos and record voices
- Sight Words 1-300: Kids Learn- different interactive activities to learn sight words
- *Sight Word Ninja- slash through given sight words
- Sushi Scramble- make words from the given letter tiles
- That's Baloney- quiz-like game for all content areas (2nd grade & up)
- *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore (iOS)- based on a film and book



Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear and manipulate individual sounds in words. Children must first understand that words are made up of separate speech sounds that can be blended together to make words before they can make sense of using the alphabet to read and write. Research has identified phonemic awareness and letter knowledge as the best two predictors of how well a child will learn to read during the first two years of school (National Reading Panel, 2000). Children who develop strong phonemic awareness skills at an early age are more likely to become fluent readers and better spellers than children who do not.

By the end of kindergarten, children should be able to:

- ### How can I help my child develop phonemic awareness skills?

- Read books and poems that focus on the rhythm of language and rhyme. Books such as "Hop on Pop" or "Sheep in a Jeep" help children pay attention to sounds in words.
- Give your child a noisemaker (such as a whistle). Tell your child to make noise if you say two words that rhyme (cat, cup; sit, mitt).
- Play word games such as "Guess My Word". "I'm thinking of a word that rhymes with _____. Can you guess my word?"
- Have a sound scavenger hunt. Give your child a bag and ask him/her to find as many things around the house that begin with a certain sound.
- Play "I spy" with beginning sounds of words "I spy something that begins with /t/".

- Have your child guess a word that you sound out slowly (ssssssuuuuunnnn).
- Give your child 3-5 blocks, beads, bingo chips or similar items. Say a word and have your child move an object for each sound in the word.
- Play Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes with sounds. Say a word and have your child touch his/her head for the first sound, shoulders for the second sound, and knees for the third while saying each sound.
- Jump for Sounds. Say a word and have your child jump for each sound in the word while saying the sound.





Learning the Alphabet Naming the Letters

Introduction: It is important for children to be able to name and find letter forms quickly in a variety of ways and places.

Materials: tagboard letters, capital and lower case (cut apart), plastic storage bag, two bowls

Game 1: Upper/Lower Case Letter Match

- Directions:**
1. Lay out the capital letters in any order.
 2. Mix up the lower case letters in the bag.
 3. Pull one letter from the bag.
 4. Child names the letter.
 5. If correct, ask your child to find the matching upper case letter.
 6. If not correct, tell the child the letter and return the letter to the bag.
 7. Continue playing until all the letters have been identified and matched correctly.

Game 2: Fishing for Letters

- Directions:**
1. Child chooses a tagboard letter from the bag and names the letter.
 2. If correct, the letter goes into the child's bowl (pond).
 3. If not correct, the letter goes into the parent's bowl (pond).

Game 3: Concentration with Letters

- Directions:**
1. Use 3 to 6 letters (one each of capital and lower case letters).
 2. Lay the letter cards face down on the table.
 3. Child turns over 2 cards. If they match (A,a, for example), the child keeps them. If they don't match, turn the cards back over.
 4. It is the next person's turn.
 5. Keep playing until all the cards have been properly matched.

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E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P
Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X
Y	Z		

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m	n	o	p
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Sight Vocabulary

Sight Vocabulary

- Building sight vocabulary is increasing the number of words that a reader can recognize effortlessly and without thought.
- Words that can be recognized effortlessly and without thought are words that the reader can recognize automatically.

Concentration

Place pairs of word cards face down on the table. The object of the game is to remember where the like cards are, and to pick up matching pairs. Each player turns over two cards in each turn and reads the words aloud. If they match, he may keep them. The player with the most matches wins.

Pick A Card

Print sight vocabulary words or phrases on small cards. Write a numerical value from one to three in the corner of each card, and place the cards face down on the table. Players (two or more) take turns choosing a card and reading it. If a player can read the card correctly, he keeps it. If not, he replaces it face down on the table and the next player takes his turn. The winner is the player who has the highest score when all the cards have been picked up.

Buzz

Print sight vocabulary words on small cards. Cut out the "Buzz" word cards. Each player takes a turn reading a card. When he gets a "Buzz" card, he must give all the cards to the other player. The player with the most cards is the winner.

Drill Sandwich

The drill sandwich is a way to present unknown words to your child in order to help him/her learn them more quickly. First you will need to put the words on flashcards. To begin, you will need 7 words he/she knows and 3 words he/she does not know.

Organize your flashcards in the following way:

3 Knowns
1 Unknown
2 Knowns
1 Unknown
2 Knowns
1 Unknown

Now show your child one card at a time. He/she will be able to say "known" words. When you come to an "unknown" word, tell him/her the word. Have your child say the new word with you two times and continue this to the end of the 10 words.

Continue to practice these 10 words. When the unknown words are known by your child, use them as "knowns" and put together a new drill sandwich with new "unknown" words.

Make a pile of cards labeled "Knowns" and "Unknowns". Watch the "Known" pile grow!

The Most Common Word Families (AKA: Rimes or Phonograms)

By adding a beginning letter(s) to these word families, students can spell and read 654 one syllable words!

-ab	-at	-ink	-ore	-unk
-ack	-ay	-ip	-ot	-y
-ag	-ell	-ight	-out	
-ail	-est	-ill	-ow (how, chow)	
-ain	-ew	-im	-ow (bow, throw)	
-am	-ed	-in	-op	
-an	-eed	-ine	-uck	
-ank	-ick	-ob	-ug	
-ap	-ing	-ock	-um	

Source: Fry, E. (1998). The most common phonograms. The Reading Teacher.

