

Dear 2021-2022 First Grade Families,

We're very excited about the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. To help our soon-to-be Upper Primary students begin the year on a strong and positive note, we are confident that by following the suggestions enclosed in a consistent manner, your child will successfully begin the 2021-2022 school year. Please encourage your child to keep that "above and beyond" attitude!

As summer approaches, we want to encourage students to keep their skills sharp by completing activities that strengthen, support, and extend their current knowledge base. In order to keep the brain active and continue building a solid foundation for learning, we strongly recommend that your child engage in the following suggested activities throughout the summer to work towards meeting and exceeding the expectations below. Remember to let your child be your guide. They will embrace learning if you are smiling, relaxed and enjoying learning with them. Also, please remember that all children progress differently, and we will continue to move your child forward, in partnership with you, when the new school year begins.

**Corbett Prep is extending and paying for our students to go online and review/extend the skills taught this school year. We highly encourage you to have your child use these websites to reinforce skills over the summer months: IXL and Reflex Math (3 green lights per week).**

**Basic Expectations & Foundation for Entering First Grade Language Arts:**

- Be able to read, spell and write the Pre-Primer and Primer words on the attached Dolch Word list.  
\*Once those are mastered, feel free to move on to subsequent lists.
- Be able to express ideas as complete thoughts in writing.
- Be able to retell a story that has been read independently or read to them.

**Suggested Activities for Continuous Review and Reinforcement for Language Arts:**

- Read, read, read! (See attached Reading at Home sheet for suggestions.)
- Make a creative response to a story that you have read, for example:
  - \*Draw a picture detailing your favorite part of the story.
  - \*Act out the story.
  - \*Feel free to use your own creative ideas.
- Keep a notebook or summer journal of events, ideas, poems, songs or stories.
- Practice neat handwriting.
- Be a pen pal with a family member or friend. Be sure to use correct spelling and sentence structure.
- Take books along on errands and trips.
- To practice spelling, see attached suggestions.

### **Basic Expectations & Foundation for Entering First Grade Math:**

- Write and identify the numbers 0-9 correctly.
- Master addition and subtraction facts to 10.
- Identify coins by name.
- Tell time to the hour.

### **Suggested Activities for Continuous Review and Reinforcement of Math Skills:**

- Continue to use your Reflex Math, and IXL online resources.
- Empty out a change purse or pocket. Sort and name the coins.
- Look at analog clocks. Tell the time to the hour.
- Count as high as you can in one minute. Try to reach a higher number each time.

### **Additional Suggestions:**

- Do an Internet search for websites with fun and interactive games to practice basic skills in language arts and math. Key words to type in your search would be "free interactive games for kids" + the area you want them to practice (math, spelling, etc.) You might need to test a few to find the ones that will be the best fit for your child.
- CAMP IDS has some great opportunities for academic and enrichment programs (reading, writing and math camps).

We are looking forward to next year. We are thrilled to welcome back our current Corbett Prep students and to also welcome new students to the Corbett Prep family. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

The Upper Primary Teachers

## Upper Primary

### Summer Reading Suggestions

#### I. Purpose:

*Summer time is the perfect opportunity for your child to reinforce and strengthen reading skills and fluency that will support his/her love of reading. With that in mind, here is a list of possible authors for you to refer to that will help support these goals.*

**Our favorite authors:** *To name just a few!*

Ted Arnold  
Jan Brett  
Joseph Bruchac  
Eric Carle  
Joanna Cole  
Marjorie Cuyler  
Roald Dahl  
Tomie DePaola  
Gail Gibbons

Kevin Henkes  
Martin Jenkins  
Suzy Kline  
Leo Lionni  
Arnold Lobe  
Lois Lowry  
Laura Numeroff  
Mary Pope Osborne  
Peggy Parish

Barbara Park  
Dav Pilkey  
Patricia Polacco  
Ron Roy  
Cynthia Rylant  
John Scieszka  
Dr. Seuss  
Janet Stevens  
Chris VanAllsburg

#### II. Award Winning Literacy

When choosing books for your child, a suggestion is to look for winners of awards. Simply do an online search for the bold keywords below to find great recommendations.

- The **John Newbery Medal** goes to the author of the most distinguished American novel for children.
- The **Randolph Caldecott Medal** goes to the illustrator of the most distinguished American picture book for children.
- The **Sibert Award** is given for non-fiction books.
- The **Jane Adams Children's Book Award** is given to books with high interest and low readability.
- The **Mathical Award** is given to math literature.
- The **Coretta Scott King Award** is given to authors and illustrators of African descent.
- The **Cook Prize** is given to STEM related books.
- The **Josette Frank Award** is given to books about overcoming obstacles.

#### III. Unit Connections:

Any books related to the following concepts would be beneficial in supporting our units for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

##### Health

- **Central Idea:** The choices people make can empower them to live a healthy lifestyle.
  - For Example: **Eating the Alphabet** by Lois Ehlert, **The Vegetables We Eat** by Gail Gibbons, **How Did that Get in My Lunchbox: The Story of Food** by Christine Butterworth, **Mrs. Peanuckle's Vegetable Alphabet** by Jessie Ford, **I am Peace: A Book of Mindfulness** by Susan Verde, and **I am Yoga** by Susan Verde

**\*Continued on the back**

## Navigation

- **Central Idea:** People use maps to locate and navigate.
  - For Example: **Me on the Map** by Joan Sweeney, **Mapping Penny's World** by Loreen Leedy, **Maps** by Alexandra and Daniel Mizielski, **Henry's Map** by David Elliott, and **Scrambled States of America** by Laurie Keller

## Difference Makers

- **Central Idea:** An individual's contributions can positively impact a society.
  - For Example: **A is for Activist** by Innosanto Nagara, **Come with Me** by Holly McGhee, **Swimmy** by Leo Lionni, **Separate is Never Equal** by Duncan Tonatiuh, **The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind** by William Kamkwamba (picture book version), **Sparkle Boy** by Leslea Newman, **Maybe Something Beautiful** by F. Isabel Campy and Rafael Lopez and **children's biographies about people who have had a positive influence on society.**

## Architecture

- **Central Idea:** Function can determine the design and construction of architectural structures.
  - For Example: **Dreaming Up** by Christy Hale, **Iggly Peck** by Andrea Beaty, **The Three Pigs** by Steven Guernica, **You Lived Here** by Giles Laroche, and **The World is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect** by Zaha Hadid

## Personal Finance

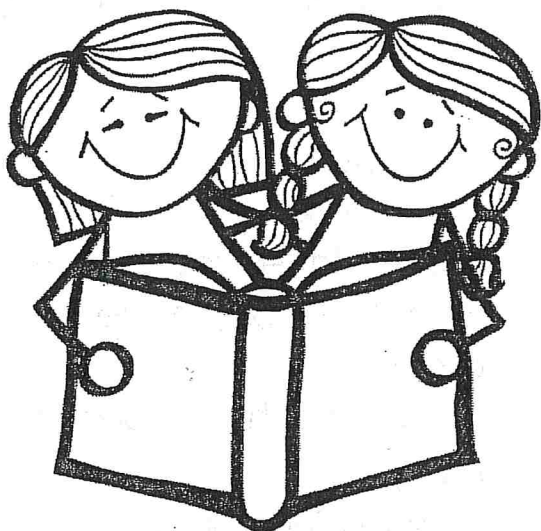
- **Central Idea:** The choices people make about currency impact their lives.
  - For Example: **One Proud Penny** by Randy Siegel, **If You Made a Million** by David Adler, **The History of Money** by Martin Jenkins, **Those Shoes** by Maribeth Boelts, **Money Madness** by David Adler, **Alexander Who used to Be Rich Last Sunday** by Judith Viorst, **Follow the Money** by Loreen Leedy, and **One Hen** by Katie Smith Milway

## Ecosystems

- **Central Idea:** Living and non-living things work together to maintain a healthy ecosystem.
  - For Example: **Over and Under the Pond** by Kate Messner, **Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt** by Kate Messner, **Tree of Wonder** by Kate Messner, **Meadowlands: A Wetlands Survival Story** by Thomas F. Yeserski, **The Curious Garden** by Peter Brown, **Because of an Acorn** by Adam and Lola Schaefer, **Just a Second** by Steve Jenkins and other books by Steve Jenkins, **Letting Swift River Go** by Jane Yolen, **Life and Times of the Apple** by Charles Micucci or the Ant, Corn or Peanut titles, and DK children's books about ecosystems/habitats such as **Seashore** or **Forest Life and Woodland Creatures**

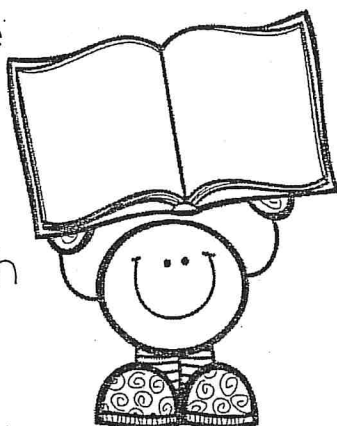
# Reading At Home...

## Can Make A HUGE Difference!



### Choose Books That Are At An Appropriate Reading Level For Your Child

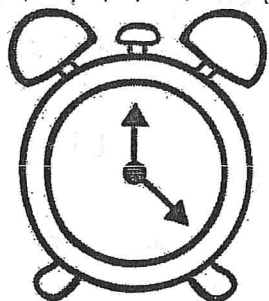
- ☐ Use the five finger rule. Open the book to any page and ask your child to read. Put up a finger every time your child does not know a word. If you have put up more than five fingers before the end of the page, this book is too hard for your child.
- ☐ Choose books that match your child's likes and interests.



Keep plenty of reading materials in your home: books, magazines, newspapers, and comic books. Children enjoy having a variety of reading materials!

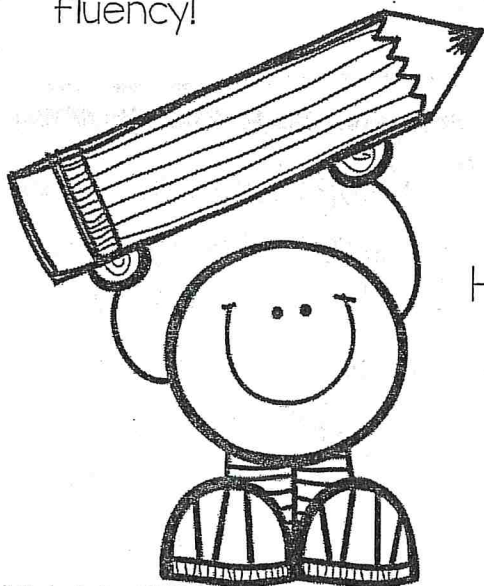


15-20  
minutes is  
plenty for  
a beginning  
reader!



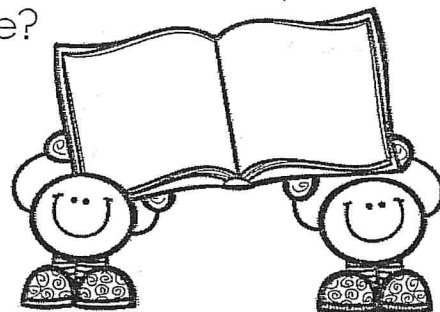
## How To Read With A Beginning Reader:

- Encourage your child to use his/her finger to point to each word.
- Read a sentence and have your child repeat it.
- Take turns reading a sentence each or a page each.
- Talk about the story as you read it. What do you think will happen next? What does this story remind you of? How do you think this character feels?
- Don't be afraid to read the same book again! Repeated reading helps build reading fluency!



## Check For Understanding

- ✓ Start the book by making predictions. What do you think will happen in this story?
- ✓ Ask questions and make comments during the reading process.
- ✓ After reading a book, have your child tell you the events from the story in the correct order.
- ✓ What was the problem in this story?
- ✓ How did the character feel when...?
- ✓ Encourage your child to make connections. Does this story remind you of another book you read, an event in your life, a movie?



## Read Books Online!

There are many fun and interactive websites for literacy.

Here are a few FREE online resources:

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

[www.speakaboos.com](http://www.speakaboos.com)

[www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com)

[www.wegivebooks.org](http://www.wegivebooks.org)

<http://interactivesites.weebly.com>

# WORKING WITH WORDS ACTIVITIES

Use these activities to help your spelling get stronger!

## Font Fun

Type all of your words using different, fun fonts and colors

## Rainbow Writing

Write every letter in each spelling word with a different color of crayon or marker.

## 2 Color Words

Write vowels in one color and consonants with another color.

## Pyramid Words

Write the first letter of the spelling word. Write the first two letters of the spelling word below it. Then write the next three letters, etc.

## Memory Match

Write your spelling words on index cards (make 2 sets) and play "Memory Match" with them.

## ABC Order

Write your spelling words in ABC order. For an extra bonus, put all 15 words in reverse (backward) ABC order.

## Scrabble Spelling

Use scrabble letters to make your spelling words, or play the words in a game of scrabble!

## Play Dough letters

Use play dough to make the letters that spell your spelling words.

## Spellingcity.com

Go to this free site, enter your list and play the games!

## Font Fun

Use your computer to type your words using different fonts.

## Skipping Rope

Spell your words as you skip each letter.

## Syllable Splits

Divide the word into syllables

## Pen Pals

Write a letter using all of the words or as many as you can

## Crosswords

Make a crossword puzzle using all of your spelling words, then give it to a friend to solve

# Complete Dolch Word List Divided by Level

Pre-primer	Primer	Grade One	Grade Two	Grade Three		
a and away big blue can come down find for funny go help here I in is it jump little	all am are at ate be black brown but came did do eat four get good have he into like must new no now on our	out please pretty ran ride saw say she so soon that there they this too under want was well went what white who will with yes	let live may of old once open over put round some stop take thank them then think walk were when	always around because been before best both buy call cold does don't fast first five found gave goes green its made many off or	pull read right sing sit sleep tell their these those upon us use very wash which why wish work would write your	kind laugh light long much myself never only own pick seven shall show six small start ten today together try warm