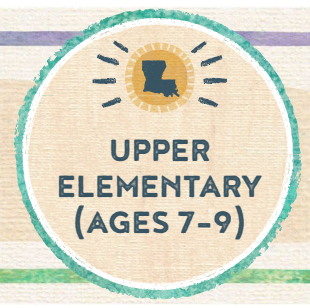




BUILDING LITERACY SKILLS AT HOME



Literacy based activities should be encouraged at home for all ages. Between the ages of 7-9, children's reading fluency is improving, and they are becoming increasingly capable of reading books independently. This is an exciting time for early readers who are eager to practice their new reading skills, and supporting their growing reading independence is a way that families can nurture a love of reading and learning. These literacy activities are great for upper elementary students.

READING

BUILD A HOME LIBRARY.

Include books about topics your child is interested in, popular book series, and also books that may be unfamiliar to your child to expand interests.

PRACTICE STORIES FROM SCHOOL.

If your child comes home with a decodable story (one they have learned in class and has words that can be sounded out), encourage them to practice reading it independently. Re-reading familiar stories is a great way to build reading fluency.

SUPPORT GROWING SKILLS.

Listen to them read books that you have in your home, and provide support when they are struggling to decode (sound out) a word. If they don't know the sounds, it's ok to tell them the word!

ENCOURAGE CHOICES.

Allowing your child to choose books they want to read can help foster a love for reading.

MIX IN MOVIES.

Suggest books from movies your child likes. They may enjoy getting the additional details that the book provides.

WRITING & DRAWING

KEEP IN TOUCH.

Suggest that your child send notes to family members or relatives via snail-mail or email.

JOURNAL.

Provide your child with a decorative notebook and pen, and encourage them to share a few sentences about their day.

PRACTICE HANDWRITING.

Children need regular practice writing with a pen and paper to improve their handwriting, including cursive.

ENHANCE TYPING SKILLS.

Use free typing classes and websites to support your child with this important life skill.

SPEAKING & LISTENING

LISTEN TO AUDIO BOOKS.

Listening to a novel that appeals to the whole family is a great way to engage in family book discussions.

TALK ABOUT IT.

Ask them their opinions of a book they are reading and help them make real-world connections to what they are reading.

CREATING

PLAY GAMES.

Games like Scrabble, Boggle, and many other board games require reading skills.

BRING STORIES TO LIFE.

Encourage your child to use technology to create digital stories or animations.

