



Growing Readers at Home

A Family Guide for Supporting Readers (Grades K–6)

★ Why Reading at Home Matters

Building a home reading habit is one of the most powerful gifts you can give your child. Just **15 to 20 minutes of daily reading** at home directly impacts a child's growth:

-  **Expands Vocabulary & Knowledge:** Children exposed to reading at home hear millions more words per year, boosting comprehension in all subjects.
-  **Builds Brain Power & Focus:** Regular reading strengthens memory, concentration, and critical thinking skills.
-  **Strengthens Family Connections:** Shared reading creates a calm, supportive bond between children and parents.
-  **Drives Academic Success:** Reading skills built at home translate to higher confidence and stronger academic performance across all grades.



Early Readers (Grades K–2)

- **Point & Follow:** Run your finger under text while reading aloud so children connect printed letters with spoken words.
- **Sound it Out:** Help children blend letter sounds (e.g., *c-a-t = cat*). Be patient as they sound out unfamiliar words.
- **Repeat Favorites:** Reading the same book multiple times builds reading fluency and vocabulary confidence.



Growing Readers (Grades 3–6)

- **Take Turns:** Read a paragraph or page, then have your child read the next one.
- **Explore All Formats:** Graphic novels, non-fiction, cookbooks, and sports magazines all count as reading!
- **Talk About Words:** When you encounter tricky or new words, pause and discuss what they mean together.
- **Listen Together:** Audiobooks during car rides or quiet time expand advanced vocabulary and comprehension.

💬 **Conversation Starters...Ideas for talking about texts.**

Before Reading	📖 During Reading	🌟 After Reading
• "What do you think this book will be about based on the cover?"	• "Why do you think the main character made that choice?"	• "What was your favorite part of the story and why?"
• "Does this book remind you of anything we've done or experienced?"	• "What do you think is going to happen next?"	• "If you wrote the book, how would you change the ending?"
• "What do you already know about this topic?"	• What is the problem in the story?	• "What was the main lesson or message of the story?"
• "Why did you choose this particular book today?"	• How do the illustrations and/or graphics help you understand what is happening in the text?	• "Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?"

🏠 **3 Easy Ways to Create a Reading Home**

- 🕒 **Set a Daily Routine:** Make reading a habitual part of the day—before bedtime, right after school, or right after dinner.
- 📚 **Keep Books Accessible:** Leave books on coffee tables, near beds, or in the car so they are always within reach.
- 👤 **Be a Reading Role Model:** Let your child see you reading books, news, or magazines. Kids copy what they see!