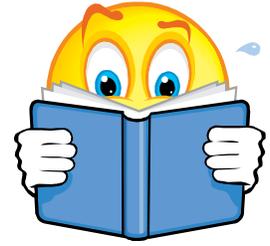


Reading with your child



Here are some strategies to help students build reading skills and become fluent readers.



Make reading a habit by reading every night. Read with your children every night for at least 20 minutes.



Snuggle up close with a book.



Talk about the pictures and ask questions. Ask questions that make your child think about why.



Read a variety of genres with your child. It is important that they read ALL types of books. Your child can tell you all about the different types of genres.



For beginning readers, let them read books over and over. For more advanced readers read books by their favorite authors.



Read with expression and work with your child on reading with expression too. Pay attention to punctuation and how your voice sounds when you come to (. ? !).

When Students Get Stuck

When children read at home they sometimes get stuck on unknown words. Students need to practice skills for helping them get unstuck without us always telling them what the word is. Below are some strategies that help students with unknown words.

1. Tell your child to look at the pictures (early readers)
2. Tell your child to look for chunks in the word. (walkingng, teacherer, chat)
3. Ask your child to get their mouth ready to say the word by shaping their mouth for the beginning letter. Sometimes early readers are just reluctant to even try to say the word.
4. Ask your child if the words looks like a word they already know. (could—should)
5. Ask your child to go on and read to the end of the sentence. Often by reading other words in context they will be able to figure out the unknown word.
6. If your child says the wrong word while reading, ask questions like:
Does it make sense? Does it sound right? Does it look right?

Questions to Ask Children

Before Reading

- ◇ What story clues are in the title and the pictures?
- ◇ Is the story fiction or non-fiction? How do you know? Ask the students what the specific genre the story is and how they know.
- ◇ If the book is nonfiction, what will you learn from the reading the book?
- ◇ What will the main character need or want?
- ◇ Why do you want to read this story?
- ◇ What do you think the setting of this story will be? How do you picture it?

During Reading

- ◇ What will happen next in the story?
- ◇ How do you feel about the main character?
- ◇ Why does the character act or feel a certain way?
- ◇ Does the story or text make sense?
- ◇ How will the story most likely end?
- ◇ How does the story remind you of your life?

Make sure with all answers that your child justifies their answer with why they think the way they do. Ask them what does the story say that makes you think that way. Ask them for their text evidence (they know what that means).

After Reading

- ◇ How did the story or text make you feel?
- ◇ What do you like or dislike about the story?
- ◇ What surprised you?
- ◇ Have your feelings about the character changed? Why or why not?
- ◇ How are the characters feeling or actions different at the end of the story? Or how did the character change?
- ◇ What is the author's purpose or message they want the reader to get from the book?
- ◇ Why did the author write the book?