

WHAT IS FAMILY LITERACY?

Family literacy is how a family interacts with literacy materials (text, words, illustrations, etc.). Family literacy can be practiced by reading books before bedtime, writing each other letters, playing word games, singing songs or cooking together while following a recipe. Below are ten ways to improve family literacy.



1. Read, read, read! Read books, magazines, newspapers and digital print!

2. Ask your child about what they're reading. Ask questions before, during and after reading.

3. Write notes, e-mails, texts or letters to each other each day.

4. Sing songs together. Make up new songs too! The sillier the better!

5. Cook together. Teach your child how to follow a recipe.

6. Tell family jokes.

7. Play board games and word games together. Have a family game night.

8. Keep a family calendar. Make family to-do lists, and grocery lists. Write down wishes/goals for each season.

9. Visit the library or bookstore together. Check your local library for weekly read aloud classes.

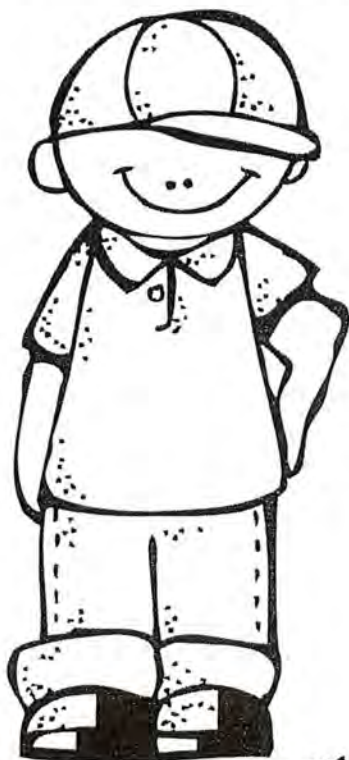
10. Create art projects together. Display family artwork.

WHY CAN'T WE SKIP READING TONIGHT?

Student A reads 20 minutes each day. This equals 3600 minutes a school year. Student A will read approximately 1,800,000 words.

Student B reads 5 minutes each day. This equals 900 minutes in a school year. Student B will read approximately 282,000 words.

Student C reads 1 minute each day. This equals 180 minutes a school year. Student C will read approximately 8,000 words.



By the end of the school year, Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 school days. Student B will have read only 12 school days. Which student do you expect to be the better reader? (Nagy & Herman, 1987)

How do I get my 20 minutes?

- Read during snack time
- Keep a few books in the car
- Make a set time to read aloud to your child—even if it's for 5 minutes!
- Add reading into transitions—reading while you clean up lunch or finish getting ready to leave
- Read everything! Signs, food boxes, magazines, etc.
- Keep books by the bed
- Have a set time for your child to read quietly to themselves
- Play reading games—hangman, Brain Quest, etc.
- Read while you wait at a restaurant or doctor's office
- Listen to stories online. Try Storyline Online!
- Read activity books, such as cookbooks for kids or Klutz books.

BUILDING INDEPENDENT READING STAMINA

Once your child begins reading independently it's important that they build their reading stamina. Reading stamina is how long your child can actively read while staying engaged in the story. Start slow, have your child chose a book (using the rule of five!) and set them up in a comfy place to read by themselves. Tell your child it's independent reading time. Have them read and tell them to come get you when they feel tired of reading or are having trouble paying attention to the story. Use the chart below to track reading stamina. Encourage your child to graph their stamina each day, for ten days to see how it builds! Model independent reading, challenge yourself to read independently while your child reads too!

30 Minutes										
25 Minutes										
20 Minutes										
15 Minutes										
10 Minutes										
5 Minutes										
	DAY ONE	DAY TWO	DAY THREE	DAY FOUR	DAY FIVE	DAY SIX	DAY SEVEN	DAY EIGHT	DAY NINE	DAY TEN

CREATING READING ROUTINES

Studies show that we learn best from repetition. This is true when it comes to reading too! Developing reading routines is a great way to working on learning to read while taking some of the anxiety away from what we are supposed to do before, during and after we read. Below are some routines that would be great to implement every time you read with your child.

- **Complete a picture walk before reading.**
- **Play detective! Find all the parts of a text!**
- **Ask questions before, during and after reading.**
- **Set aside independent reading time each day.**
- **Let your child explore books of their choice at home, the bookstore and the library.**
- **Track Print.**
- **Label pictures.**
- **Count the paragraphs on a page (for longer texts).**
- **Draw a picture! Read a page aloud without showing your child the illustration. Have them draw the illustration using what they visualize in their mind.**
- **Read many different forms of print each day (e-books, magazines, newspapers, comic books, apps, picture books, chapter books).**





Ideas for Integrating Reading Into Everyday Life

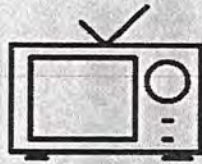
Read Funny Favorites

Share comics, articles, jokes, and stories that make you laugh with your child. Read them aloud during breakfast or make it an after-school ritual. Ask him to tell you his funny anecdotes.



Based on the Book . . . or the Movie

It is great to give your child the book of a movie she liked, but also encourage reading by giving her books based on TV shows and movies that she already watches.



Books-a-Plenty

Make sure that there are books available to your child in every room of the house and everywhere he goes, from having magazines in the car to bringing a comic book for him to read while waiting on line.



Read in Public

Let your child see that you like to read for fun. It's important to show that you enjoy reading and make time for it if you expect her to believe that reading is a fun fundamental.



Talk about TV and Movies

Encourage your child to tell you about the shows he watched. Have him retell the plot and describe the characters to build his sense of narrative, story, and general comprehension skills.



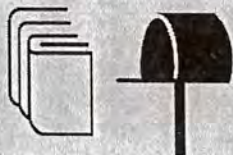
Interactive Is Interesting

Use the Internet with your child to explore a subject she enjoys. Try to find sites that include fun graphics or games and aren't too text-heavy.



Get a Subscription

Kids enjoy getting mail, and a subscription to kids' magazine will give him something to look forward to every month that is his. The idea that the magazine is just for him makes it more appealing to read.



Go to Story-Hours, Readings, and Plays

Show her that a lot of kids and adults enjoy books by going to readings and story-hours at your local library or bookstore. Plays are especially great, since they are a form of literature designed not to be read, but to be seen.



Introduce Pig Latin

Make learning a new language a fun experience by teaching your child to speak in Pig Latin. The idea of talking in code is appealing and will actually develop your child's ability to mentally picture words, figure out how they are spelled, and rearrange the letters within them.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT BOOKS

When reading with your child you want to find the “Goldilocks” of books. You want a book that’s not too hard, not too easy but one that is just right. Use these tips to find a book that is just right for your child.

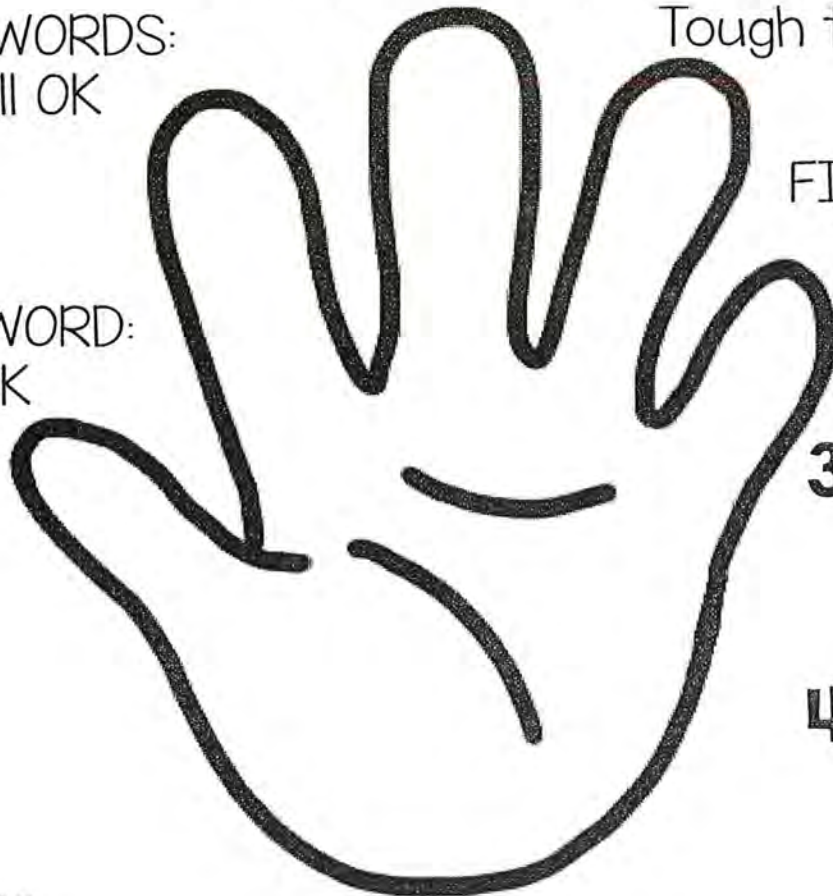
THREE WORDS:
You may need help

TWO WORDS:
Still OK

ONE WORD:
OK

FOUR WORDS:
Tough to read

FIVE WORDS:
Too hard



The RULE of FIVE

- 1. Open the book to any page.**
- 2. Read the words on that page.**
- 3. Count the number of words that you cannot read.**
- 4. Use your fingers to help you decide if this a good book to read.**

I PICK Good-Fit Books

I choose- I choose my books.

Purpose - Why am I reading
this book?

Interest -Do I like it?

Comprehend - Do I understand
what I'm reading?

Knowledge - Do I know most of
the words (Remember the 5
finger rule!)

DIFFERENT WAYS TO READ WITH YOUR CHILD

READ ALOUD

- Complete a picture walk before reading.
- Discuss/Predict what will happen.
- Track print as you read.
- Ask questions before, during and after reading.
- Point out details in the illustrations.
- Use different voices for the characters.

ECHO READ

- Complete a picture walk before reading.
- Discuss/Predict what will happen.
- Track print as you read.
- Read a sentence or page. Have your children echo the sentence or page back to you.
- Ask questions as you read.

CHORAL READ

- Complete a picture walk before reading.
- Discuss/Predict what will happen.
- Track print as you read.
- Read the story out loud together at the same time.
- Your child will use your guide if they are stuck on a word.

FOLLOW ME

- Complete a picture walk before reading.
- Discuss/Predict what will happen.
- Track print as you read.
- Begin by reading aloud. Stop in the middle of a sentence.
- Have your child read the next word.
- Continue reading aloud.

WHAT ARE THE FIVE DOMAINS OF READING?

How can you help your child become a better reader? By exposing them to the five domains of reading! The five domains of reading are five components that all of us must master to become better readers. When reading with your child at home check to see how many of the five domains you are practicing!

1.

Phonemic Awareness:

The ability to understand that each word is made up of sounds. We can tell how many sounds are in a word, which words rhyme or even change a word by changing one sound.

2.

Phonics:

The ability to know which letters make which sounds. We can decode (sound out) words while we read. We can spell words based on phonics patterns.

3.

Vocabulary:

The ability to understand what a word means. We can give a definition or use the clues in the story to help us determine the meaning. The more words you know the more you will understand the story!

4.

Fluency:

The ability to read quickly, accurately and with expression. We can read smoothly, we don't have to sound out each word and we can change our voice for different characters or punctuation.

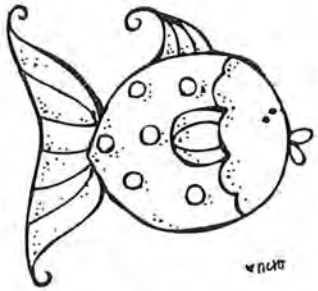
5.

Comprehension:

The ability to understand what happened in the story and why. Comprehension makes us dive deep. We analyze the characters, plot, and purpose of the story. We can answer questions before, during and after reading that show we understood the text as a whole.



SOUND IT OUT!



LIPS THE FISH
Say the first few sounds. Read the end of the sentence and say it again.

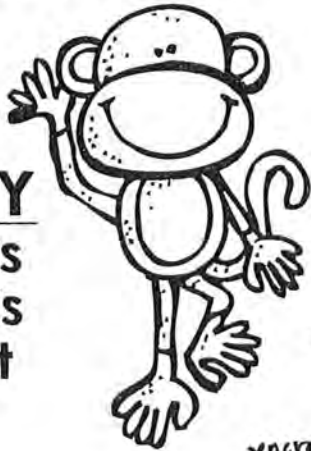
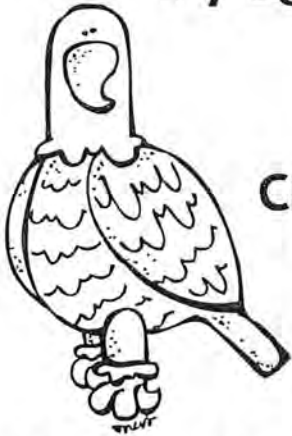
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Does the word make sense? If not, try again.



EAGLE EYES

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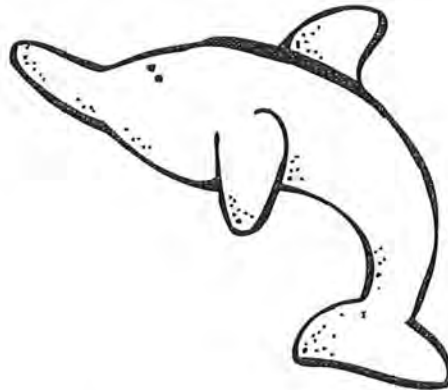
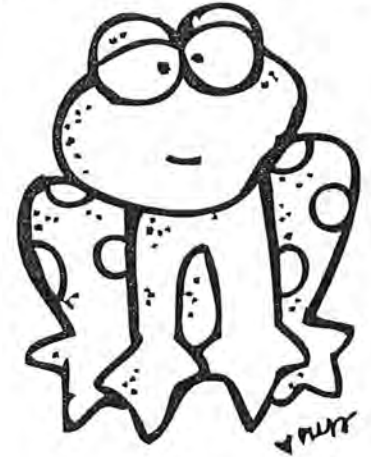
CHUNKY MONKEY

Look for little words inside bigger words to help you sound it out.

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SKIPPY THE FROG

Stuck on the word? Skip it, read the rest of the sentence and hop back!

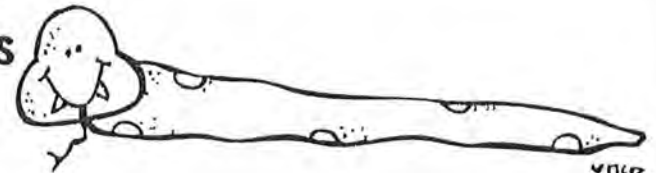


FLIP THE DOLPHIN

Try the short vowel sound, then try the long vowel sound to sound it out.

STRETCHY SNAKE

Stretch the word out slowly. Say the sounds together to say the word.



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Board Games:

Play board games that focus on using words such as Apples to Apples, Taboo, Blurt, Scategories, or Boggle. Ask your child to use the words in a sentence. If they can't, model it for them.

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Go Digital:

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Detective:

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The Alphabet Game:

Give your child a category (ex. girl's names, foods, animals, etc.). Challenge them to the alphabet game. Go back and forth saying a word for each letter of the alphabet. A-alligator, B-bear, C-cat, D-dog, until someone can't think of anymore.

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Make Your Own Dictionary:

Use a notebook or journal to make your own dictionary. Draw pictures to help you remember what the words mean instead of definitions.

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Describe it:

How many words can you think of to describe it? While eating breakfast, lunch or dinner challenge your kiddo to describe how the food tastes, feels, smells or sounds using as many adjectives as they can.

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Word Jar:

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Sock Game:

Put word cards down on the floor. Have your child stand in their socks. Call out the word and see how quickly they can step on it!

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Dot Game:

Laminate word cards. Be sure to review words before playing. Use an Expo marker to draw a dot on the back of one of the cards. Don't let your child see which one. Lay cards out on the floor or a table. Have your child guess which word is hiding the dot!

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Shaving Cream:

Put shaving cream (or sand/paint) on a plate. Write a word using your finger. Have your child read it.

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Give your child a whiteboard and a marker. Call out a word. Have your child write it/draw a picture for it/write a sentence (choose a different task depending on your child's needs) for it and show you on the whiteboard.

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Tic-Tac-Toe:

Draw a tic-tac-toe board. Write a word in each box. Before each turn the player must read the word.

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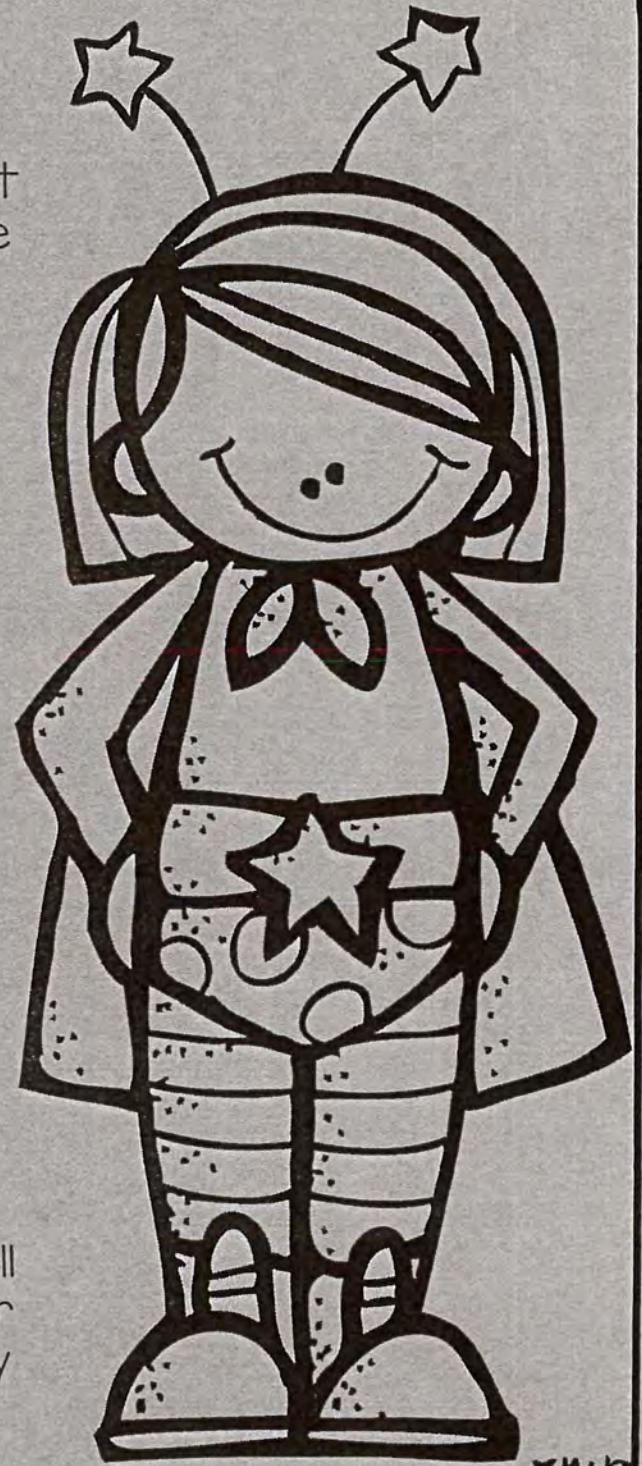
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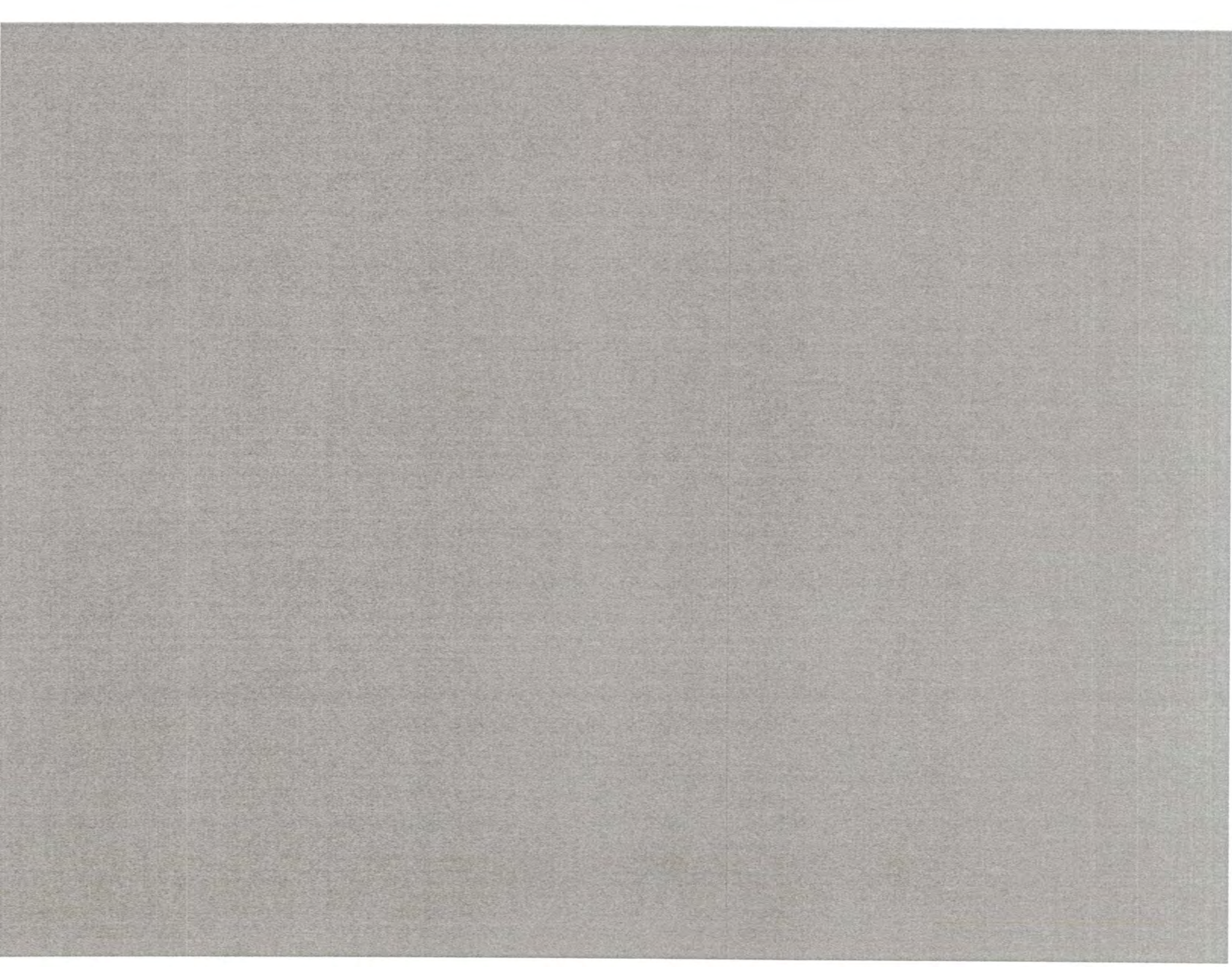
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THE POWER OF SIGHT WORDS

Why are sight words so important? Sight words are words that don't typically follow a phonics pattern therefore, they can't be "sounded out". Sight words are words we must know from memory. If your child has a large repertoire of sight word knowledge their overall reading fluency will improve, which will in turn improve overall comprehension. There are many different ways to learn sight words, here are a few ideas! If you'd like a list of appropriate sight words for your child don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

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READING, WRITING & STORY TELLING

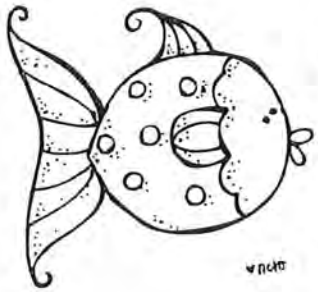
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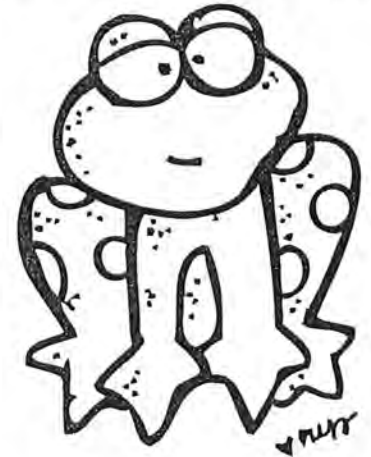
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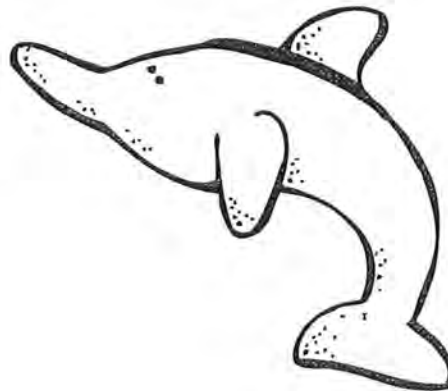
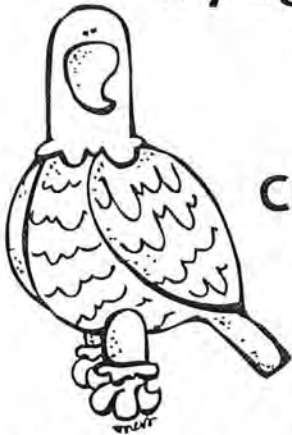
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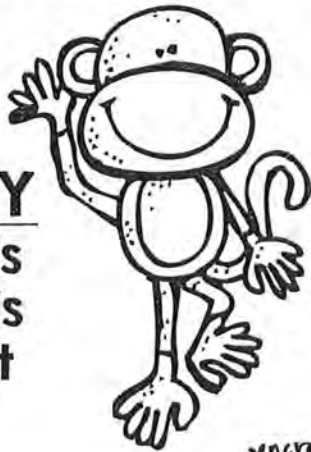


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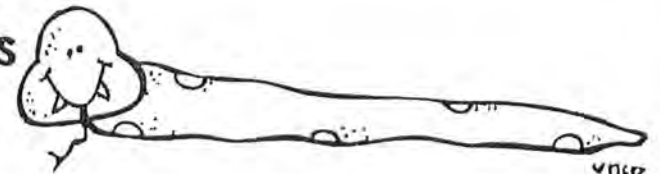
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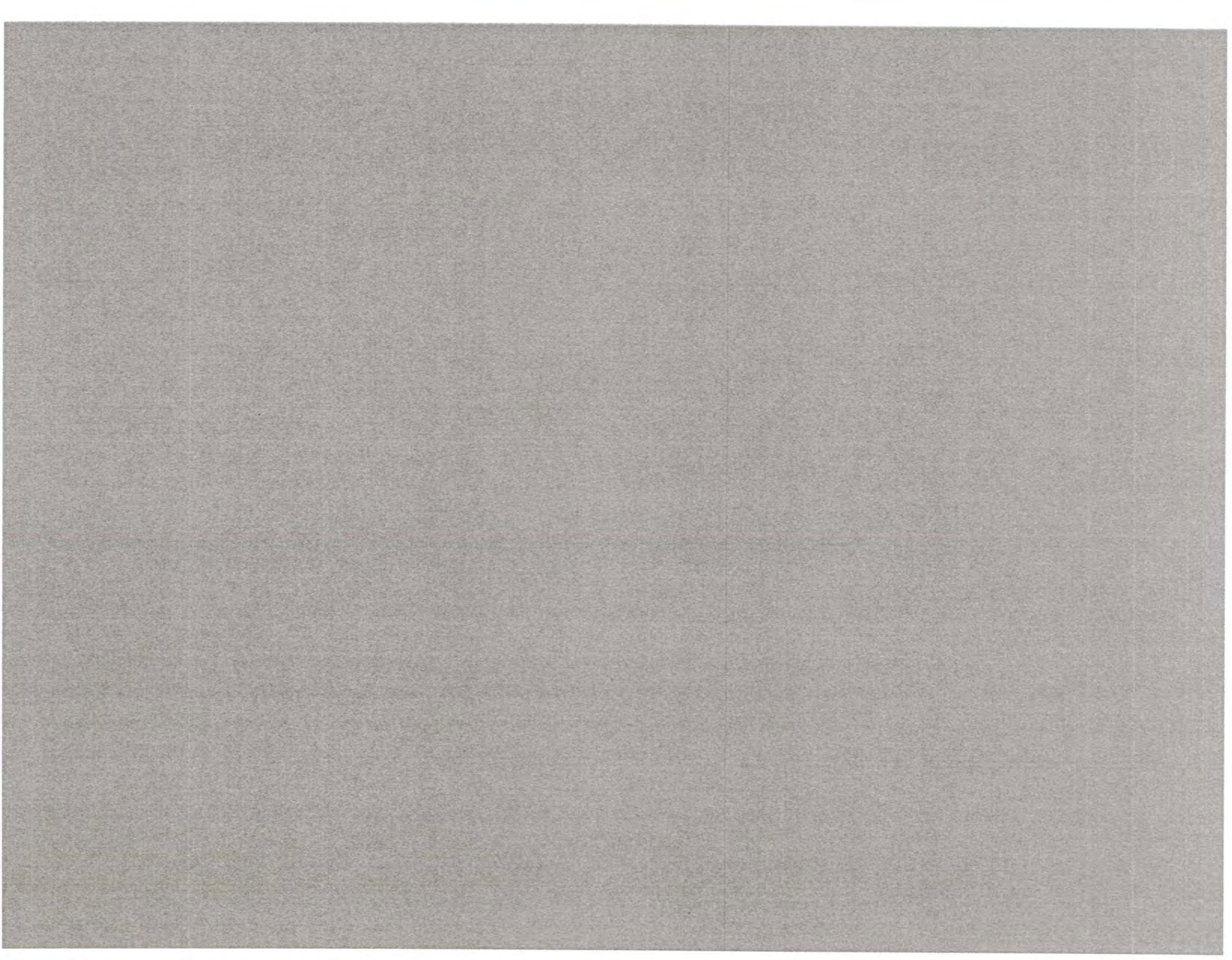
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Fridge Helper: A Parent's Quick Reference Guide to Assist with Reading at Home

Oral Reading Prompts:	Within the Text Prompts:	Beyond the Text Prompts:	About the Text Prompts:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Can you find where you made a mistake? -You said ____ Does that make sense? -You said ____ Does that sound right? -You said ____ Does that look right? -That was close Try that again -Make a complete stop at the period -Take a short pause when you see a comma. -Reread it with the punctuation in mind -Try to make your reading sound like you are talking -Try that again and put your words together -Emphasize words that you think are important -Make your voice sound like you're asking a question when you see the author used a question mark -Make your voice sound like the character is talking when you see quotation marks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What is the genre? How do you know? -What text features does this book have? What do they help you with? -Who is the main character? -What other characters are there in your book? How do they relate to the main character? -What is the setting of the story? -What is the conflict in the story? -Summarize the most important things that you've read so far -What have you learned so far? -What is something that happened in the story that you think is important? -Tell me the story by using the Somebody (characters) wanted (problem) but (events) so (conclusion) technique. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What do you know or can you guess about this book simply based on the author, title, or genre? -What do you think will happen next in the book? -What happened in the story so far that made you make that prediction? -Do you need to change your prediction based on what you read? -Does this book remind you of any other books you have read based on its characters, setting, or plot? -Does this story make you think about something in your day-to-day life? -Do you know anyone that reminds you of a character in this story? -Did you learn anything from this book about the world around you (science, laws, history, medical information, weather, etc.) -How is what you learned different from what you thought you knew or understood before reading this book? -What did you learn while reading this book that might help you read different books in the future? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What point of view did the author choose to write this story from? Why do you think he/she chose this point of view? Do you like the choice the author made in selecting this point of view? -Why do you think the author wrote this book? What was the purpose? -What type of audience do you think the author had in mind when he/she wrote this book? -How did the writer's word choice create emotions for the reader? -What type of research or experience do you think the author of this book had to do/have in order to make the book seem accurate and realistic? -What do you know about a character in your story? (Use what they say in dialogue, how they treat other characters, what they think/feel, how they react to situation, etc to help) -What qualifications does the author have to write a book about this? -What did you like about this book? What would you change about it?

Reading Strategies to use at home

Here are some strategies you can use at home to help make sure your child understands what they are reading throughout the entire book.

Before reading:

- Activate prior knowledge (schema). I explain this to the students by telling them our brains are like computers. When we see something familiar, we automatically pull up a file of everything we already know about that topic. This helps us prepare to have a better understanding of the story.
- If students are not familiar with a topic in the book, provide background knowledge. You can talk about it or look it up to learn together.
- Preview the book and make predictions about what might happen.
- Make sure the book is an appropriate selection that matches your reading strategies and interest. Read the first page or two and ask yourself if you are able to understand the story so far. Use the IPICK strategy.

During reading:

- Check for understanding. After every few pages, stop and ask your child questions (Who, What, When, Where, Why - use "check marks").
- Go back and reread a sentence that you don't understand.
- Stop and talk about parts that make you angry, surprise you, remind you of something that has happened to you, or remind you of another book (make connections)
- Make more predictions. Talk about how predictions change as you read more of the story and have more information.
- Imagine a story taking place as if it were a movie (visualize)

After reading:

- Summarize what you just read. Include important information (use check marks again for the 5 W's).
- Have students retell the story - let students even look in the book to help retell.
- Ask students to complete a "Somebody Wanted But So" - I am including an example of this, although students do not need to fill one out. Just talk about it.
- Draw or write about your favorite part.
- Write a letter to the author or to a character in the book.
- Give a book review. Tell what you liked or disliked about the book.
- Ask your student: What was the author's purpose? Think about why the author wrote the book or article. (Persuade, Inform, or Entertain)
- Talk about the genre (fantasy, historical fiction, biography, etc). Ask your student to show why they think the book fits in that genre.

Title:

Author:

Somebody - main character(s):

Wanted - what were they trying to get?:

But - what was the problem?:

So - what did they do to solve it?:

Title: Charlotte's Web
Author: E.B. White

Somebody - main character(s):
Wilbur

Wanted - what were they trying to get?:
to live a long life

But - what was the problem?:

The farmer wanted to feed him well and then make him meat

So - what did they do to solve it?:

Charlotte spun beautiful webs with words to make Wilbur look like "some pig".

READING ISN'T JUST ON PAPER

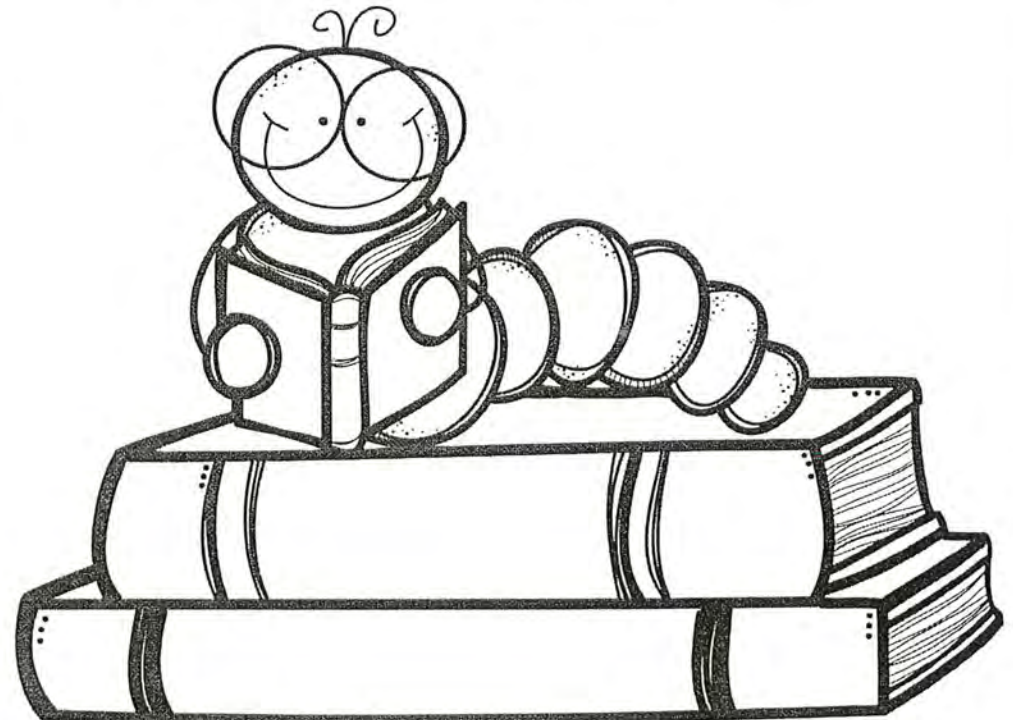
With all the new technology there are more ways to read than ever! Spark your child's interest by introducing them to digital reading using a computer, laptop, tablet or mobile device. Check out these great online resources for digital reading! Please note some of these resources are free and some require a subscription.

FREE RESOURCES

- <http://www.starfall.com>
- <http://www.wegivebooks.org>
- <http://www.speakaboos.com>
- <http://www.storylineonline.net>
- <http://www.readtomely.com>
- <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/u/online-storytime-books-toys/379003588/>
- <http://en.childrenslibrary.org>
- <http://www.abcya.com>
- <http://ngexplorer.cengage.com/ngyoungexplorer/index.html>
- <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>
- <http://reading.ecb.org>
- <http://www.seussville.com>

PAID RESOURCES

- <http://www.tumblebooks.com>
- <http://www.abcmouse.com>
- <https://www.readinga-z.com>
- <http://readingeggs.com>



Free

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Literacy

Websites
www.abcy.com
www.starfall.com

Math

APPS



Doodle Buddy



Storybots APPS



STARFALL



PRESCHOOL UNIVERSITY APPS

APPS



Geoboard



10 FRAME FILL



NUMBER MAGIC 2



Line 'em UP

Literacy Websites

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/clifford/>

<http://www.havefunteaching.com/videos/alphabets-videos/>

<http://pbskids.org/superwhy/>

Math Websites

<http://jmathpage.com/topics/jmpheadkinder.html>

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Activity.aspx?id=3565>

<http://www.iknowthat.com/com/L2?GradeLevel=0:0&Subject=All>

ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS



When reading with your child, check for understanding by asking questions. Don't just ask questions at the end, it's important to check for understanding before, during and after reading. Here are some questions to ask!

BEFORE

- What do you think will happen in this story?
- What might be the problem?
- Where may be the setting of the story?
- What do you know about this topic?
- What does this story make you think of?
- What are you wondering?
- What does the title tell you?

DURING

- What do you think will happen next?
- What can you tell me about the story so far?
- How do you feel about the story so far?
- What questions do you have?
- Why do you think the character did that?
- What would you have done?

AFTER

- What was the title?
- What was the problem/solution in the story?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What was your favorite/least favorite part?
- What would you change about the story?
- What will happen next?

5

Ways to Support Your {Middle grade reader}

I know that sometimes you just want ideas for how to help your reader. Here are some of the best research-based ideas to help your middle grade learner improve their reading abilities outside of school. Better yet, they are all very simple and inexpensive!

Read

There are multiple positive effects of students being read to and students seeing their family read. If we want our learners to read, we have to walk the walk. By reading, your learner builds positive associations with reading, is willing to take reading risks, and is exposed to significantly more vocabulary.



Vocabulary

"The number one indicator of student success is vocabulary." The more students read, the larger their vocabulary, and then the more texts they can understand and apply. The following games are fun, and great for vocabulary:

- Pictionary
- Charades
- Headbanz
- Scrabble

Listen

We are all SO busy, and that can make it difficult to find time to sit and read every night. Audio books are such a great way for students to listen to fluent reading, experience great books, and still get reading time in. Some great places for audio books:



- Overdrive
- iTunes
- Audible

Books & Books

Books! Books! Books! Exposing your learner to books, in ways that show how awesome books and reading are, is one of the best ways to Develop their love of reading. Go to:

- The Library
- Barnes & Noble
- Used book stores
- Amazon.com
- Scholastic Orders



Choice

Research continually shows us that, "Independent reading is the best predictor of reading achievement and also the best predictor of the amount of gains in reading." Research also constantly points to the "Power of Choice." Let them choose what they read, and eventually, your learner will know what books they like and how to choose books they will read.

If you want to read a.....

FUNNY BOOK

- 33 Minutes
- Big Nate
- The Adventures of Captain Underpants
- Crush
- Dear Dumb Diary
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid
- Flat Broke
- House of Robots
- iFunny series
- Leven Thumps
- Liar Liar
- Middle School series
- My Life as a Book
- My Wierdest School
- Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales
- Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
- Sideways Stories from Wayside School
- The Terrible Two
- Ungifted

FANTASY BOOK

- A Snicker of Magic
- All the Answers
- Children of the Lamp
- Deep Blue
- Eragon
- Fablehaven
- The Girl With the Silver Eyes
- The Golden Compass
- Graceful
- Harry Potter
- Inkheart
- Leven Thumps and the Gateway to Foo
- The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe
- Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children
- The Night Gardener
- Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
- Savvy
- Willow Falls Series
- The Witch's Boy

GRAPHIC NOVEL

- American Born Chinese
- Amulet
- The Babysitter's Club
- Big Nate
- The Boxcar Children
- Eighth Grade is Making Me Sick
- El Deafo
- Drama
- The Graveyard Book
- Lunch Lady
- Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales
- Roller Girl
- Smile
- Sisters
- Star Wars Jedi Academy
- Sunny Side Up
- This One Summer

REALISTIC FICTION BOOK

- A Handful of Stars
- Because of Mr. Terupt
- Half a Chance
- Holes
- Hoot
- Ida B. . . and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World
- Elijah of Buxton
- Everything on a Waffle
- Feathers
- Freak the Mighty
- Maniac Magee
- No More Dead Dogs
- Out of My Mind
- Radio Fifth Grade
- So B. It
- Swindle
- Ungifted
- When Zachary Beaver Came to Town
- Where the Red Fern Grows
- Wildlife
- Wonder

If you want to read a.....

Short, but great, BOOK

- Annie and the Old One
- Bridge to Terabithia
- Bunnicula
- Call it Courage
- Dear Mr. Henshaw
- Feathers
- Freak the Mighty
- Frindle
- The Giving Tree
- How to Eat Fried Worms
- Island of the Blue Dolphins
- Lawn Boy
- Sing Down the Moon
- Stone Fox
- Tiger Rising
- Tuck Everlasting

Historical Fiction BOOK

- Al Capone Does my Shirts
- The Boy in the Striped Pajamas
- Bud, Not Buddy
- Chains
- Echo
- The Fence Between Us
- Forge
- I Survived...
- The Land
- The Lions of Little Rock
- One Crazy Summer
- Out of the Dust
- Number the Stars
- Prisoner B-3087
- Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
- Sophia's War
- Stella by Starlight
- Vietnam Series
- The Watsons go to Birmingham-1963

Award Winning BOOK

- Because of Winn Dixie
- Fever 1793
- Hatchet
- The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg
- One Came Home
- Out of my Mind
- When You Reach Me
- The Year of Billy Miller
- Flora and Ulysses
- Inside Out and Back Again
- Moon Over Manifest
- The One and Only Ivan
- Pictures of Hollis Woods
- Rules
- Three Times Lucky
- Walk Two Moons
- Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

Science Fiction book

- Atlantia
- The Bar Code Tattoo
- The Dead Gentlemen
- Divergent
- Ender's Game
- The Eye of Minds
- The Fourteenth Goldfish
- The Giver
- Legend
- Matched
- The Maze Runner
- The Missing Series
- The Power of Six
- Slated Series
- The Time Machine
- A Wrinkle in Time

If you want to read a.....

Middle School/Young Adult BOOK

- A Corner of the Universe
- Brown Girl Dreaming
- Counting by 7s
- The Crossover
- Dead End in Norvelt
- Divergent
- Eleven
- Greenglass House
- The Giver
- Gregor the Overlander
- The Hunger Games
- If I Stay
- If You're Reading This
- The Maze Runner
- Nest
- Schooled
- Speak
- When You Reach Me
- When Zachary Beaver Came to Town
- Walk Two Moons
- The Wednesday War

Inspirational book

- 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens
- Chicken Soup for the Kids Soul
- Chicken Soup for the Preteen Soul
- Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul
- Dear Mr. Henshaw
- Esperanza Rising
- Fish in a Tree
- Frindle
- The Giving Tree
- I am Malala
- Life of Pi
- The Little Prince
- Pay it Forward
- Stargirl
- Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere
- Wonder

BOOK ABOUT ACCEPTANCE

- Al Capone Does My Shirts
- Doll Bones
- El Deafo
- Esperanza Rising
- Hound Dog True
- How to Beat the Bully Without Even Trying
- Freak the Mighty
- Loser
- One for the Murphys
- Rain Reign
- Rules
- The Secret Tree
- Stargirl
- Ungifted
- Wonder

BOOK With animals

- A Dog's Life
- Because of Winn Dixie
- Bunnica
- The Call of the Wild
- Fantastic Mr. Fox
- Flora and Ulysses
- Hoot
- How to Steal a Dog
- Julie of the Wolves
- Love That Dog
- The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
- The One and Only Ivan
- Rain Reign
- Rush Revere and the American Revolution
- Shiloh
- Stone Fox
- Swindle
- Warriors
- Where the Red Fern Grows
- White Fang
- Wildlife

If you want to read a.....

BOOK ABOUT SPORTS

- The Batboy
- The Best of the Best
- The Big Time
- The Big Field
- The Boy Who Saved Baseball
- The Crossover
- Deep Zone
- Diamond in the Desert
- Gym Candy
- Heart of a Champion
- Heat
- Hero
- High Heat
- Fantasy League
- First Team
- Football Champ
- Football Genius
- Football Hero
- Force Out
- Lost Boy
- Million-Dollar Throw
- Miracle on 49th Street
- New Kid
- Night Hoops
- No More Dead Dogs
- QB 1
- Rivals
- Runner
- Painting the Black
- Perfect Season
- Shakespeare Bats Cleanup
- Summer Ball
- Tangerine
- Travel Team
- True Legend
- The Underdogs
- Unstoppable
- Year in Sports

BOOK THAT BOYS LOVE

- Alex Rider Series
- Artemis Fowl
- The BFG
- Big Nate
- A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor
- Chasing Vermeer
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid
- Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library
- Guys Read
- Hatchet
- Holes
- How They Choked...
- The Hunger Games
- I Survived...
- The Maze Runner
- My Side of the Mountain
- Percy Jackson Series
- The Ranger's Apprentice
- The Saturday Boy
- A Series of Unfortunate Events
- Sideways Stories from Wayside School
- The Sign of the Beaver
- Swindle Series
- Wildlife

BOOK THAT'S A LITTLE "DARK"

- The Bar Code Tattoo
- The Dead Gentlemen
- The Egypt Game
- Famous Las Words
- The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die
- The Graveyard Book
- Hollow City
- Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children
- The Night Gardener
- Slated
- A Series of Unfortunate Events
- The Witch of Blackbird Pond

If you want to read a.....

BOOK WRITTEN IN VERSE

- Addie on the Inside
- All the Broken Pieces
- Brown Girl Dreaming
- The Crossover
- Girl Coming in for a Landing
- Hate That Cat
- Home of the Brave
- Inside Out and Back Again
- Locomotion
- Love That Dog
- May B.
- Out of the Dust
- Pieces of Georgia
- Shakespeare Bats Cleanup
- Shakespeare Makes the Playoffs
- The Trial
- The Weight of Water

POETRY BOOK

- A Light in the Attic
- A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems
- Don't Bump the Glump
- Falling Up
- Firefly July
- Follow Follow: A Book of Reverse Poems
- The Giving Tree
- The Llama Who Had No Pajama
- The Missing Piece
- Neon Aliens Ate My Homework and Other Poems
- Night Garden: Poems From the World of Dreams
- Outside the Box: A Book of Poems
- *Poems from Homeroom: A Writer's Place to Start*
- Poetry for Young People
- Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes
- Rimshots: Basketball Pix, Rolls, and Rhythms
- *Swimming Upstream: Middle School Poem*
- What My Mother Doesn't Know
- Where the Sidewalk Ends

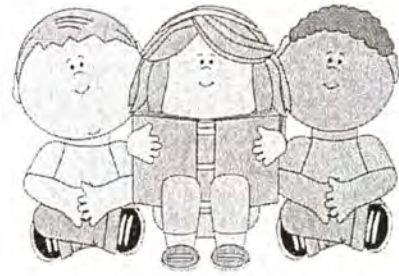
BOOK THAT GIRLS LOVE

- Dear Dumb Diary
- Dork Diaries
- Ella Enchanted
- Ever After High
- Hound Dog True
- Little House on the Prairie series
- Matched Series
- Pictures of Hollis Woods
- Prairie Evers
- Savvy
- The Secret Garden
- The Secret Tree
- The Swift Boys and Me
- A Tangle of Knots
- A Whole Lot of Lucky
- This Journal Belongs to Ratchet
- Three Times Lucky
- The Trouble with May Amelia
- Tuck Everlasting

BOOK WITH A STRONG FEMALE CHARACTER

- Becoming Naomi Leon
- Coraline
- Divergent
- Ella Enchanted
- Esperanza Rising
- *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*
- *Harriet the Spy*
- Harry Potter Series
- The Hunger Games
- Island of the Blue Dolphins
- Legend
- Matilda
- Number the Stars
- Sing Down the Moon
- Walk Two Moons

Challenging Questions to Ask About Reading



--Informational/Non-fiction--

- *What is this selection mainly about?
- *Why is this topic important?
- *What are some of the most important ideas related to this topic?
- *How has the author made it easy for the reader to find information?
- *Why did the author most likely write this text?
- *What does the title tell you about this text?
- *What information is provided through graphic features? (illustrations, maps, charts, diagrams, photographs, etc.)
- *What information is provided through text features? (bold print, key words, italics, captions, labels, etc.)
- *How does this (chart, illustration, map, etc.) help the reader?
- *How can the reader tell that the author's purpose was _____?
- *What details are important to the main idea of the selection?
- *Which sentence from the text best supports the idea that _____?
- *What can you tell from this text?

Tip: Always ask
"How do you
know?" and
follow up with a
discussion!

Challenging Questions to Ask About Reading



--Narrative (any story)--

- *How is this story like any other story you know?
- *How is the setting (time and place) important to the story?
- *How did the author show the passing of time?
- *What words did the author use to describe the place?
- *How does the season or time affect the characters or the plot of the story?
- *Who is the most important character?
- *How does the author tell us about the character?
(Hint: Look at what the character does, thinks, says, and what others say about the character.)
- *Which character changed in the story? How did he/she change?
- *What is the author's message?
- *Why did the author most likely write this story?
- *What is this story mostly about?
- *What do the illustrations add to the story?
- *What was the most important problem in the story?
- *What clues did the author give to help the reader predict the ending?
- *What lesson does this story teach about life?
- *What can you tell about this character?
- *What two or three sentences summarize the whole story?
- *What are some interesting words, phrases, or sentences?
- *What words help create a feeling or picture in your mind?
- *What did the author have to know to write this book?
- *What did the author do to interest the reader?

PARTS OF A TEXT

Pointing out the parts of a text and the information they give us help to build better understanding of the story as a whole. Every time you read ask your child if they can show you the parts of a text!

CAN YOU FIND...

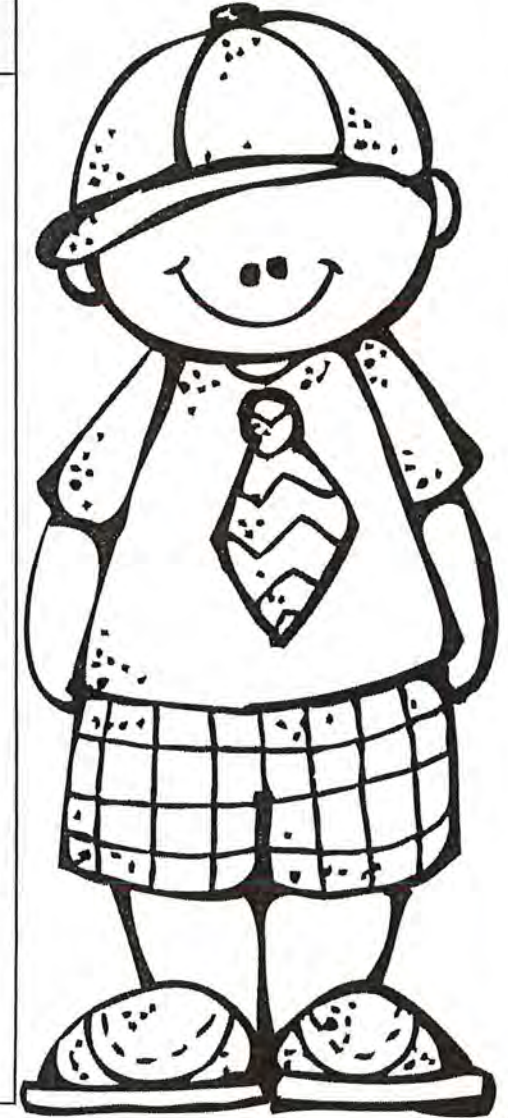
- The front of the book
- The back of the book
- The title
- The author's name
- The illustrator's name
- The spine
- The title page
- A page in the book
- A word on a page
- Where to start reading
- Where to stop reading
- A period or question mark
- A capital letter
- A lowercase letter



NON-FICTION VS. FICTION TEXT

When we are teaching children to read it's important that they are exposed to both fiction and non-fiction text. What differences should we teach or point out for each text? Use this chart to help you!

NON-FICTION TEXT	FICTION TEXT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Teach the non-fiction text features while reading. Point them out and discuss what information they provide to help us better understand the text and information.- Non-Fiction Text Features: Table of Contents, Glossary, Caption, Bold Print, Headings, Diagrams, Charts, Graphs, Labels, Photographs, Illustrations, Text Box, Title Page	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Teach the structure of the story. Discuss the setting, characters, problem, solution, plot and events of the story.- Make connections! Discuss what the story reminds you of or what it makes you think about.- Visualize! Picture the story in your mind, draw what you see.- Discuss why the author wrote the story? Was it written to entertain, to inform or to persuade?



Free Kindergarten TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Literacy

Websites

www.abcya.com
www.starfall.com

Math

APPS



Doodle
Buddy



STORYBOTS
APPS



STARFALL



PRESCHOOL
UNIVERSITY APPS

APPS



Geoboard



10 FRAME FILL



NUMBER
MAGIC 2



Line 'em
UP

Literacy Websites

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/clifford/>

<http://www.havefunteaching.com/videos/alphabet-videos/>

<http://pbskids.org/superwhy/>

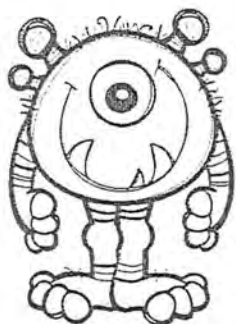
Math Websites

<http://jmathpage.com/topics/jmpheadkinder.html>

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Activity.aspx?id=3565>

<http://www.iknowthat.com/com/L2?GradeLevel=0:0&Subject=All>

comprehension Cootie Catchers



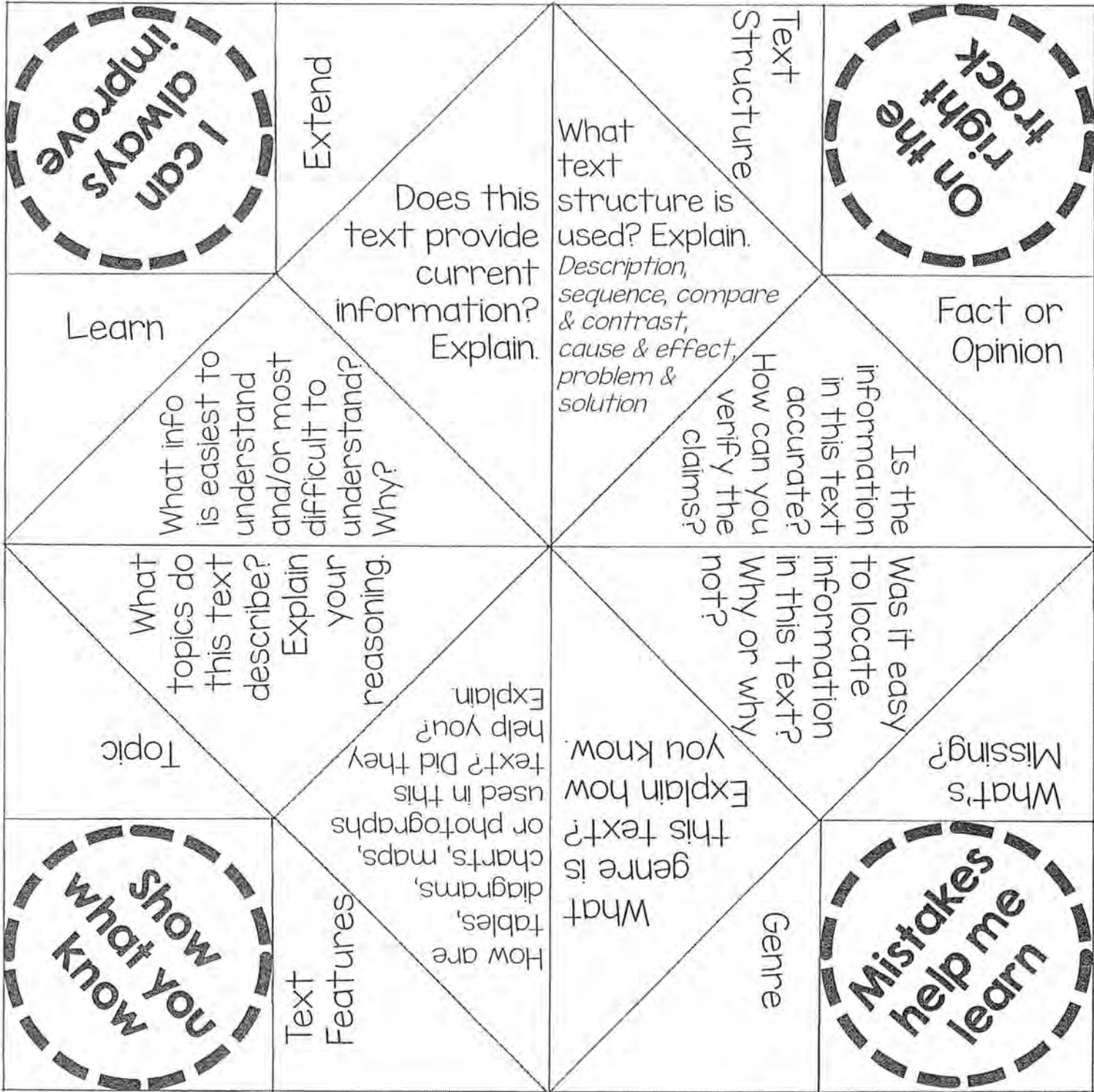
Directions: Fold the cootie catcher. Make 1 for fiction, and another for non-fiction. Each has a bookmark, too!



scan QR code for "How to Fold" video on YouTube.

<http://bit.ly/1hgd7dK>

How to Play: Ready to discuss text? Pick a circle. Open and close the Cootie Catcher as you say each syllable. (Ex: Train your brain! = 3 syllables, so open/close/open) Peek in, and pick a side. Open and close for each syllable. (Ex: Character - 3 syllables, so open/close/open) On the third time, lift the flap to ask the question! Ready for more? Use this with another book!



I can always improve

On the right track

Show what you know

Mistakes help me learn

Let's Discuss Nonfiction!

- ✓ Was it easy to locate information in this text? Why or why not?
- ✓ What genre is this text? Explain how you know.
- ✓ How are tables, diagrams, charts, maps, or photographs used in this text? Did they help you? Explain.
- ✓ What topics do this text describe? Explain your reasoning.
- ✓ What info is easiest to understand and/or most difficult to understand? Why?
- ✓ Does this text provide current information? Explain.
- ✓ What text structure is used? Explain.
- ✓ Is the information in this text accurate? How can you verify the claims?



Let's Discuss Fiction!

- ✓ Pick a character. How does the author describe the character?
- ✓ Describe how a character acts. Why do you think they act that way?
- ✓ Describe the funniest, saddest, or most exciting events. What did the author do to make it feel that way?
- ✓ Retell the story. (Beginning, Middle, End)
- ✓ What is the most memorable part of the text? Why?
- ✓ Who do the characters in this text remind you of? Explain.
- ✓ What is the author's purpose with this story? Why?
- ✓ What creative or unusual vocabulary did the author use? Explain.

Summer Slide and Your Middle School Student

Summer Slide: Scary Statistics

- Children who don't read over the summer will lose up to three months of reading achievement.
- Reading loss is **cumulative**. Students who don't read during the summer could be three years below grade level by fifth grade simply from not reading during the summer. This cumulative loss makes it very difficult to close the achievement gap that exists during the school year alone.
- Two-thirds of the 9th grade reading achievement gap can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities during elementary school.
- Summer reading loss has been identified as one of the three major obstacles to get students to reading proficiency. The other two major obstacles are students who are chronically absent in the early grades and students who enter kindergarten unprepared.

What You Can Do to Prevent Summer Slide

- **Read about Summer Activities:** Going to a baseball game? Read up about the players on the team and how the team is doing so far during the season. Visiting a zoo or aquarium? Have students read articles about the animals they will see. Taking a splash in a local swimming pool or water park? Read up about chlorine, the gallons of water it takes to fill a pool, etc.
- **Visit the Public Library:** If your child currently doesn't have a library card, the summer months are a perfect time to get one. Put trips to the library on the calendar so that your child gets there regularly.
- **Model Reading:** Read the newspaper or magazines, bring a book to the beach, join an adult book club, read up on a topic that interests you. Kids are more likely to value reading when they see the most important adults in their lives valuing reading as well. Want to go one step further? Talk to your child about what you're reading and thinking about your reading.
- **Create a Print Rich Environment:** Is your household a print rich environment? Promote literacy by having magazines, newspapers, books, pencils, notepads, etc. Make it a family habit to create lists together before going shopping, making to do lists together, leaving each other notes, etc.
- **Build Regular Reading Time into Summer Schedules:** Kids quickly develop a summer schedule that will easily stick for the entire summer. Be part of helping your child develop that schedule from Day One of summer and make sure that it involves a plan of when the student will read daily. Summer isn't the time to track reading minutes or require your child to read certain books. Encouraging your child to enjoy his or her reading and spend as much time doing so is what's most important.
- **Read Books Out Loud:** Whether you read a picture book aloud with the whole family or pick a chapter book to read aloud and discuss with your child, this is one of the best ways to promote reading. Being read aloud to is enjoyable regardless of age.

Sources

- RIF (Reading is Fundamental) Website
- ASCD Article, "Slowing the Summer Slide"

