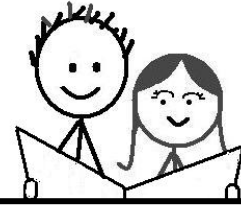


Ways to Help Your School-Age Child with Reading



- **Becoming a successful reader takes practice.** The more children read, the better they get. Time spent reading during the school day is not enough. Take time every day to read at home.
- **Find a good time and create a cozy place for reading.**
- **Allow your child to choose what he or she wants to read for independent reading.** We can help your child find materials at the child's reading level. *(See back of this sheet to learn how to use the five-finger rule.)*
- **Let your child see you reading:** books, magazines, newspapers, e-books—whatever you enjoy.
- **Read aloud to your child.** Even after children begin to read on their own, they still need to hear expressive, fluent reading in order to grow their ability to read fluently. We can recommend audiobooks and e-books with read-aloud capabilities as a fun way for your child to listen to fluent readers. Ask us how you can access these through the library catalog, or find them at *Tumblebooks*, available as a link from Children's Services on the library website, mcpl.info/childrens.
- **Watching television programs with captioning turned on can be another way for your child to practice reading.**
- **Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading.** Who are the characters in the story? What are they doing? What does your child think will happen next?
- **Invite your child to submit a Kid's Review to the library's website at** mcpl.info/cgi-bin/bookreview.
- **Play word games with your child,** such as Hangman, and Mad Libs. These games give your child a chance to practice vocabulary.

See the back of this sheet for a list of word games you can play online. →

Picking Books and Fun Word Games

Keep these four things in mind when you PICK a book to read.

Purpose

Why do I want to read it?

Interest

What do I like reading about?

Comprehension

Do I understand it?

Know

Do I know most of the words?

Our librarians can help you choose a good book.



The 5 Finger Rule

1. Open the book to a full page.
2. Read the page to yourself.
3. Every time you come to a word you don't know, hold up a finger.
4. If you hold up all 5 fingers, this book is too hard.
5. If you hold up less than 4 fingers, this book is right for you.

Reading Games to Play Online

mcpl.info/childrens/readhmk.html

Free Rice: English Vocabulary

www.freerice.com

Funbrain: Word Games

www.funbrain.com/kidscenter

MysteryNet's KidsMysteries

kids.mysterynet.com

PBS Kids : Literacy Games

www.pbskids.org/games/literacy.html

Professor Garfield

www.professorgarfield.org/pgf_home.html

Puzzlemaker

www.discoveryeducation.com/free-puzzlemaker

Reading is Fundamental: Game Station

www.rif.org/kids/readingplanet/gamestation.htm

Storybird

www.storybird.com

Storyline Online

www.storylineonline.net

Wacky Web Tales

www.eduplace.com/tales

Word Central

www.wordcentral.com/games.html



**Monroe County
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