

Reading Tips for Helping at Home ...

For Kindergarten-First Grade

- Read stories aloud and have your child retell the stories in his/her own words.
- Record yourself reading a decodable book and give the recording to your child. Have your child read along with the recording.
- Read aloud to your child even after the child can read. Talk about what you read.
- Point out the letters and words that you see everywhere. Read aloud traffic signs, street signs, store signs, billboards, and map as you travel to and from home.
- While working at home, read aloud grocery labels, notices, invitations, phone numbers, and calendar dates.
- As you read a book with your child, ask questions about the book's characters, places, and events.
- When returning to a story, have your child talk about what has already been read.
- Have your child read a new story; then tell you the story in the order in which it happened.

For Kindergarten-Third Grade

- As you read aloud, demonstrate that reading aloud should sound like talking. Read expressively; talk the way the characters would talk; make sound effects and funny faces; and vary the pitch of your voice throughout the story to make it more interesting.
- Encourage an older child to read with a younger child.
- Pick a topic of interest and have your child learn new things about it and tell you and other family members what has been learned.
- If your child is decoding the words in a sentence slowly, have your child reread the sentences to make the reading sound like talking. This provides practice reading the new words and improves understanding of the meaning of the sentence.

Reading Tips for Helping at Home cont'd

- If a mistake is made in reading a word or a word is skipped, stop the child and point out the missed word and help the child read the word correctly. Have the child reread sentences when needed to make the reading sound like talking. If too many mistakes are made, the book may be too difficult. Try an easier book.
- When your child finishes reading a book or story, have your child tell you and other family members about it.
- As you read together, but before you come to the end of the story, ask how your child thinks the story will end, or how the problems in the story could be solved.

For Kindergarten-Sixth Grade

- Let your child see you read every day to demonstrate that reading is important. Read for enjoyment and your child will copy what you do.
- Make sure there are books and other printed materials of interest to your child in your home.
- Put messages to family members under a magnet on the refrigerator or pin them on a home bulletin board so they can easily be read.
- Give books as gifts on birthdays and on special holidays.
- Talk about a story you and your child read and relate it to personal experiences.
- Provide books and other materials about things of interest to your child.
- Have your child read game instructions, recipe directions, assembly directions, comic books, catalogs, toy advertisements, and children's magazines.
- Set aside a special time during the week for everyone in the family to read. Turn off the television. This shows your child that reading is important and pleasurable for everyone in the family.
- Select many kinds of books, stories, and other printed material to read aloud. Also, help your child choose different types of books and stories to read on his/her own.