



Reading Strategies Study Tips

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The most important part of reading with your child is to enjoy your time together. Use these strategies when appropriate.

PREVIEW THE BOOK

Before reading a new book, look at the cover, browse through the book to see if there are pictures. Work with your child to make predictions based on the pictures. Ask your child if the book is fiction or nonfiction.

What do you think this book is going to be about?

DISCUSS THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK

If you're reading a fiction book, talk about the different elements of this style of writing. Talk about characters, setting, and plot. Discuss the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Talk about the problem and its solution. You will probably read this book from beginning to end.

What are the different parts of this book?

If you're reading a nonfiction book, look to see if there is a table of contents or an index. Browse through the book for any bold words and talk about the importance of these words. Find out if there's a glossary. Then show your child how to look at the table of contents or index to decide which sections you want to read.

MAKE PREDICTIONS AS YOU READ

As you read a fictional book, stop and make predictions. Ask your child: What do you think will happen next? Discuss your predictions to see if they were correct.

I think . . .

MAKE CONNECTIONS AS YOU READ

Whether you're reading fiction or nonfiction, talk about your connections to the book. If it's a fictional story, make connections to similar stories or to events in your lives. For instance, read several different versions of Cinderella and compare them. Compare characters in different stories. If it's a nonfiction text, make connections to similar topics. For instance, if you're reading a book about bears, compare that to a book you've read about beavers. If you're reading a book about Africa, compare that to a book you've read about Germany.

This reminds me of . . .

RETELL THE STORY OR RESTATE THE FACTS

When reading a fictional story, stop every now and then to retell the story. You want your child to be able to make movies of the story in his or her head as he or she reads. Drawing pictures of the story might help with the retelling.

This story was about . . .

When reading a nonfiction text, stop every now and then to restate the facts. What have you learned as you've been reading? What important words have you learned? Draw pictures to represent the important vocabulary words.