

Books, Books, and More Books!: First Grade

Making reading come alive for your child helps her to:

- Expand her vocabulary
- Choose and read a variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction
- Identify different parts of books (title, author, index, glossary) and story elements (characters, setting, events)



Ideas to try with your child:

- Visit your local library and bookstores to help your child find books that are interesting to her. Along with fiction look for poetry, science and nature, or even a joke book!
- Have your child read aloud to you if possible.
 - Before reading, have your child identify the author, title and illustrator. Encourage your child to guess what the story is about by looking at the pictures.
 - While reading, stop now and then to talk about the story and help with any unknown words.
 - When the story is finished, ask your child to retell it to you.

If your child is struggling:

- It's okay for you to do the reading! When you read aloud you are modeling what a reader does.
- Try taking turns reading; you read a sentence, your child reads the next sentence, and so on.
- Read simple books of poetry. Look for "You Read to Me, I'll Read to You" by Mary Ann Hoberman.

Going further:

- Read a variety of books on a topic that is interesting to your child. If they like dinosaurs, for example: *Dinosaurs Through Time* by Nicholas Harris (non-fiction), *Dinosaurs Before Dark* by Mary Pope Osborne (fantasy chapter book), or *Time Train* by Paul Fleischman (fiction picture book).
- Write a funny poem based on an interesting topic your child has been reading about. Make props to go with the poem.

The WA State Department of Early Learning and the Richland School District believes that parents, families, and caregivers are young children's best teachers. This resource guide, part of *Strong Foundations for School: Resource Guides for Parents of Young Children*, highlights a key developmental skill for **children in First Grade** that parents can help improve at home.



Adapted from *WA State Early Learning and Development Guidelines, 2012*: "Learn and share information from reading." *Communicating (Literacy)*, First Grade, pg. 102