



Read to Succeed
Parent Tips for Elementary-Age Children

Reading Together

It's easy and fun to encourage your school-age child's reading at home!

- ★ **Be a reader.** Let your child see you reading. Show that reading is enjoyable and useful for adults.
- ★ **Read with your children at all ages.** Your child is never too old for reading together. Pick a book you both find interesting. Give praise when your child sounds out a word, corrects a mistake, and reads with expression. Explain new words and ideas to your child. Use a dictionary together. Say, "I'm not sure what that word means, let's look it up." Take turns reading pages or being the characters.
- ★ **Make reading meaningful.** Connect what your child reads to his life. For example, if reading a book about a friend, relate the story to your child's relationship with his friend at school or in the neighborhood. Ask open-ended questions such as "What do you think will happen next in the story?" or "How would you feel if that happened to you?" Make stories more interesting by using different voices for characters or acting out a favorite story together. Reread favorite books.
- ★ **Visit the library together.** Help your child choose books about their favorite topics or something they want to learn more about. Select different types of reading materials, such as picture books, fact or nonfiction books, fairytales, and magazines. Your child may enjoy various books by her favorite author or a book series such as The Magic Tree House or Harry Potter. There are also books on CD that your child can listen to and read along. Ask a librarian, your child's teacher, or a friend for names of books that your child might enjoy reading.



Read to Succeed is a Raising Readers in Story County program. www.raising-readers.org