

Parenting Tip of the Month

January 2017



Lower Elementary Teachers



Reading Comprehension Tips for Parents

Reading with children and helping them practice specific reading strategies can dramatically improve their ability to comprehend. Here are a few important reading strategies aimed at improving comprehension:

Reread

Good readers will reread a piece several times until they are satisfied they understand it. Rereading is simple, but effective.

Make Connections

Text-to-Text: Does this story relate to another story you have read? What characters from other stories remind you of X?

Text-to-Self: How can you relate to this story? Have you ever felt the way X does?

Text-to-World: How does this story relate to 'a current event'?

Summarize

What were the main ideas in this story/chapter? Can you describe what happened in this story/chapter using only three sentences?

Predict

What do you think will happen next? What do think X will do next? How do you think this problem will be resolved? Why do you think so? What did you read in the story that lead you to this prediction?

Visualize

Close your eyes. Describe the setting. What does X look like? Try sketching a highly descriptive reading passage.

Clarify/Ask Questions

Encourage your child to ask questions when confused about a character or the plot. What just happened? Why did X behave that way? Listen to your child read aloud everyday. Strong fluency helps to foster strong comprehension. Talk to your child about book characters, what happened in the book, and what he/she liked best about the book.

Material of the Month

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Word Study

Compound words, suffix, prefix
Antonyms, synonyms, homophones, homographs

Mechanics:

Capitals, periods, apostrophes, commas, quotations
Classification, alphabetize, guide words, dictionary, thesaurus

*The activities involve laying the label cards on the work space, and matching the cards in such a way as to create compound, suffix and prefix words. Matches are made with antonyms, synonyms, homophones and homographs.

*The activities call for the child to identify capitals, periods, apostrophes, commas and quotations. The activities allow the child to practice classification, alphabetizing, the use of guidewords for research, dictionary skill building and Thesaurus usage. The Word Study is also known as The Montessori Skyscraper.

Word Study: Suffix

Big-S was learning about the suffix. Here are a few photos of the different activities we did. Suffix activity 1: In this activity the child is introduced to the suffix. A truck and trailer are used to demonstrate to the child that the suffix itself has no meaning but when attached to a root word has a meaning, as with the trailer that cannot move unless attached to the truck.



Big-S then wrote the words in her book and thought of some other words that have a suffix.



