

Tips for Reading to Kids

GRADES 3 AND 4

"TODAY A READER; TOMORROW A LEADER."

- MARGARET FULLER

READING IS THINKING



- Reading is about making meaning.
- Help kids talk about and understand the topics.
- Show kids new words and talk about what they mean.
"Go buy the milk from the store."
"Go purchase the milk from the grocer."
- The more words kids know, the easier it is to read and understand.

MAKE A ROUTINE

- Enjoy reading as a family.
- Pick a time that works for you.
- Post a reminder where you will see it!
- Set an alarm on a cell phone or timer.
- Support kids in making their own reading routine.
- Read everyday! The more you read the more you learn.



KEEP IT FUN



- Let the child choose the book! Kids are often more interested when they pick the topic!
- Children this age can practice reading to you.
- Children this age also need you to read to them!
- Try taking turns reading out loud to each other.
- Help children sound out words they don't know.

LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

- Turn off the TV.
- Find a quiet place.
- Mute cell phones or devices.
- Encourage reading before screen time.
- Keep books out where kids can see and use them.



FREE E-BOOKS FOR KIDS

- **Listen to children's books read online:**
 - Tumblebooks: <https://www.tumblebooklibrary.com/>
 - Actors reading kids books: <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
 - Books in many languages: <https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>
- **Audiobooks for kids are available from:**
 - Winnipeg Public Library: <https://winnipeg.overdrive.com/library/kids>
 - Library cards are free. To get a card, fill out your info. [here](#) or go to <https://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library/ourlibrary/membership.asp>



ENCOURAGE WRITING

- Give kids a journal or sketchbook as a bedtime activity.
- After reading, talk about what you might change in a story.
- Help kids use writing. Help them make lists or write recipes.
- Encourage writing about reading or about life experiences.
- Keep writing supplies out where kids can see and use them.

Tips for Reading to Kids

GRADES 3 AND 4

"READING GIVES YOU A PLACE TO GO
WHEN YOU HAVE TO STAY WHERE YOU ARE."

- MASON COOLEY



Reading to children
helps them understand new words,
learn to read, and succeed at school.

HOW TO SUPPORT SPEECH & LANGUAGE

- Talk about your day at meal times. Talking helps language and literacy.
- Use new words during your day. Use them over and over so kids can learn them.
- Talk about details. Instead of "blue" say "navy". Use descriptive words:
Child: "I see a big truck." **Adult:** "You're right. That's a *gigantic, dirty* truck."
- If the child says the wrong sound or word, repeat it back to them the right way:
Child: "A wadder felled down outside ." **Adult:** "The *ladder fell* down outside?"

BEFORE READING



- Talk about the topic. Watch a video clip about it.
- Look through the book: titles, pictures, charts, lists...
- Look up new words on your phone or in a dictionary.
- Ask questions: "I want to know..." "I wonder if..."
- Help kids guess what will happen or what they will learn.
- Try to read lots of non-fiction books to learn lots of facts!

DURING READING

- Review new or hard words.
- Help kids sound out words they don't know.
- Help the child connect the book to something they know.
- Visualize the story. Talk about what you 'see' in your mind.
- Monitor your thinking as you read:

"Does that make sense?" "Do I need to reread?"



AFTER READING



- Ask the child to retell the story in their own words.
- Talk about the story's elements: *who, what, where, when, why*
- Ask open-ended questions that help kids talk more:
"What did you think?" "Why did that happen?"
- Did your thinking change after you read the book?
"Now I see why..." "I changed my mind when..."

NEED MORE BOOKS?

Students can access the Winnipeg School Division (WSD) digital library:

- Their **student number** as their "Library Card" number
- The **last 4 numbers** of their student number is their PIN (password)
 - Go to: <https://winnipegdca.libraryreserve.com/>
 - Or download the **SORA** app: <https://soraapp.com/welcome>

If you need help, contact the teacher or school.