Tips for Supporting Reading at Home

Try these ideas to encourage your child to practice reading skills at home.

Encourage Daily Reading

Research shows that reading every day helps children build reading comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary. Consider these suggestions for supporting your child with daily reading:

- Establish a Routine Designate a specific time for your child to read a book at his or her level for at least 20 minutes every night. For example, set aside time for reading after dinner or before bedtime.
- Create a Comfortable Reading Environment Use pillows, lamps, and comfortable furniture to set up a cozy reading area in your home. Read your own books there to model good reading habits.
- **Incorporate Fast and Fun Reads** Use magazines, newspapers, recipes, TV schedules, and road signs as reading opportunities. Incorporate quick reading whenever and wherever you and your child happen to be.
- Share Workplace Reading Bring home materials and documents from your job so your child sees the relevance of reading in the workplace and the long-term importance of becoming a successful reader.
- Read and Ride Listen to audiobooks while traveling by car so your child hears modeled fluent reading. Bring a CD or mp3 player with headphones for your child to listen to audiobooks while on a train or plane.
- **Read and Chat** Discuss the books that your child is reading. Ask questions such as: What was your favorite part? Who were your favorite and least favorite characters? Can you think of another ending?

Find the Right Books

In READ 180, your child has a Lexile® measure—a number that represents his or her reading level based on the Lexile Framework® for Reading. Books also have Lexile measures to indicate how difficult they are. By matching your child's Lexile to books with the same Lexile, you can identify reading materials at the right level for your child. Many libraries and bookstores allow you to search for books by Lexile. You can also search for appropriate texts on www.lexile.com.

