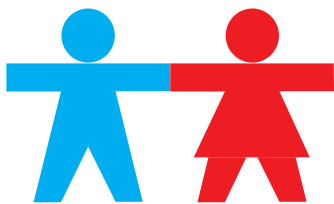


Raising a Reader...

Now that your child is in school it is even more essential that you encourage the reading habit at home. Here are some very practical ways to develop your child's love of reading:

- Read to your children. Continue to read to them even after they have learned to read. This is the most important thing you can do to encourage your reader.
- Talk about what your child has read.
- Arrange to have a quiet time to read.
- Make sure your young reader has a variety of reading materials (books, magazines, newspapers, etc.)
- Get your child a library card and visit your local library regularly.
- Meet your local librarian to find out about great books to read.
- Model reading for your child! It also gives you an excellent reason to curl up with a good book.



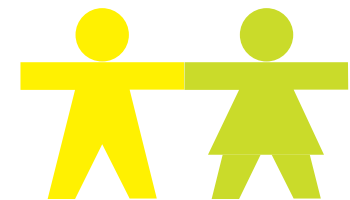
General Characteristics of the Primary Reader

Each child will develop reading skills at a different rate and not every book is right for every child. It is an excellent idea to talk to your child's teacher about reading and skill development. The children's librarian at your public library can help you and your child select age-appropriate material.

- The **Kindergarten** age child recognizes ABCs, can listen to longer stories and enjoys stories with rhyming language.
- The **First Grade** child can develop basic reading skills, may be able to read books with a few words per page and uses pictures to know what's happening in the story.
- The **Second Grade** child develops more reading skills, increases reading comprehension skills, reads for fun and reads more words per page. These children can understand more difficult stories than they can read, and find that pictures are important in understanding the story.
- The **Third Grade** child continues to build their reading and vocabulary comprehension, learns to deal with new words, begins to choose short chapter books to read, enjoys fairy tales, jokes and riddles, and likes to choose their own books to read.

Fun Reading Activities

- Celebrate reading with a party! Try a Curious George party at which all the children make monkey masks, or eat "green eggs and ham" at a Dr. Seuss party.
- Decorate a notebook with your children and use it to keep track of what they read. They can add a brief entry on the plot and include whether or not they liked the book.
- Write a letter to your child's favorite author. Does your child love a particular book? Let the author know. You can find most addresses for authors at your library or on the Internet.
- Join the summer reading program at your local library, or participate in other reading clubs and activities that are offered.
- Create posters, bookmarks, puppets, models and such inspired by your child's favorite books or stories.
- Encourage your child's interest in the world by reading informational books together on topics that interest them, such as outer space, dinosaurs or sign language.



Resources

For booklists, parenting resources and more, log on to the King County Library System Web site at www.kcls.org/kids.

Books:

Best Books for Children, Preschool through grade 6

011.62

Bouchard, David

The Gift of Reading

649.58

Codell, Esmé Raji

How to Get your Child to Love Reading

028.55

Cullinan, Bernice

Read to Me: Raising Kids Who Love to Read

649.68

Goldstone, Lawrence and Nancy

Deconstructing Penguins: Parents, Kids, and the Bond of Reading

028.55 GOL

Hall, Susan L. and Louisa C. Moats

Straight Talk about Reading

372.41

Kaye, Peggy

Games for Learning: Ten Minutes a Day to Help Your Child Do Well in School from Kindergarten to Third Grade

372.13

Lipson, Eden Ross

The New York Times Parent's Guide to the Best Books for Children

011.62

Rath, Linda K. and Louise Kennedy

The Between the Lions Book for Parents

372.41

Wise, Jessie and Sara Buffington

The Ordinary Parents Guide to Teaching Reading

372.41

Web Sites

KCLS Ready-Set-Read

www.kcls.org/kids

KCLS program that encourages and rewards children for reading 20 minutes per day for 20 days within one month. Tips on how to develop a family reading game plan and help your child become a strong and enthusiastic reader.

PBS Parents-Reading and Language

www.pbs.org/parents/readinglanguage/

Age-appropriate reading and skill development information and activities. Funded in part by a Ready to Learn cooperative with the U.S. Department of Education.

Book Adventure-Parents Place

www.bookadventure.org/pa/index.asp

Resources for parents to help support their child's reading at home, including ideas for creating a Personal Incentive Plan and starting a book group.

Reading is Fundamental (RIF)

www.rif.org/parents/

Select an age group for tips and tricks on how to motivate your child to read, such as choosing the right books and working with teachers and schools. Founded in 1966, RIF is the oldest and largest children's and family nonprofit literacy organization in the United States.



Raising Readers

Primary Readers (K-3)



Fun and easy ideas
to develop the love of
reading in your child.



kcls.org