

Reading Tips

from Drip, Drop and Drizzle



Skills

+



Strategies

SKILLS refer to the technical aspect of reading: decoding, building vocabulary and fluency

STRATEGIES are those techniques that help readers better understand the meaning behind the text; they require greater critical thinking

Reading Skills

DECODING is recognizing sound and spelling patterns and applying them to read words

Tips while reading aloud:

1. Use your finger to track the words while you read. This helps children connect what they HEAR to something they can SEE
2. Use pictures in the book to give a visual to certain words.
3. Encourage your child to find words on the page that start with a particular letter.
4. Practice rhyming + alliteration (online games below)

Online games for emergent readers:

1. Learn to Read: <https://www.starfall.com/h/ltr-classic/>
2. Alliteration: https://www.abcya.com/games/alphabats_alliteration
3. Rhyming: <https://pbskids.org/games/rhyming/>
4. Alphabetic Order: <https://www.abcya.com/games/alphabet>

VOCABULARY refers to all the words within a language

Tips:

1. Speak to your child like a big kid. You may have to explain the meaning of the words you use, but they'll catch on quickly!
2. Use synonyms early and often. Choose simple words used often and switch it up! Always relate back to the simple word to help your child solidify the connection. Ex:
 - a. Good → great, excellent, satisfactory
 - b. Bad → terrible, awful, disappointing
 - c. Happy → excited, content, joyful
 - d. Sad → disappointed, somber, pessimistic
3. Refer to pictures or symbols when learning new words to give your child a visual connection

Online games for emergent readers:

1. PBS Kids: <https://pbskids.org/games/vocabulary/>
2. Spelling City; <https://www.spellingcity.com/spelling-games-vocabulary-games.html>

FLUENCY is the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression

Tips:

1. Read, read, read! The more you read to your child, the more you model fluent reading for them to imitate.

Games for emergent readers:

1. Fluency Games: <http://www.enrichingyoungmindsandhearts.com/uncategorized/10-fluency-games-for-students/>

Reading Strategies

Previewing

Tips:

1. Take a picture walk before you begin reading! Invite your child to:
 - a. Look at the cover and read the title
 - b. Check out the pictures in the book to get an idea of what it might be about
 - c. Look at the words - are there any they've never seen before and/or don't know how to pronounce? Read those words to them ahead of time and tell them what they mean

Making Predictions

Tips:

1. After your picture walk, make a prediction: what do you think might happen in this book?
2. Pause along the way. Ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?"
3. At the end of the story, ask, "What do you think the main character will do now?"
4. A **prediction is a guess** based on what you see or know already - i.e. incomplete information. So REMEMBER, a prediction can't be "right" or "wrong" - it's just a guess!

Making Connections

Tips:

1. Connections allow us to make sense of a situation - or a character - based on our own experiences. Types of connections are:
 - a. Text to Self: something in the book reminds you of something in your own life
 - b. Text to Text: something in the book reminds you of another book you've read (or maybe a movie or TV show)
 - c. Text to World: something in the book reminds you of something happening in the world

Visualizing

Tips:

1. If a picture's worth a thousand words, then using this technique is especially helpful when reading a book with little to no pictures.
2. "Make a movie in your mind" based on what you're reading - and then draw it so you can actually SEE what you're imagining!

Summarizing / Re-telling

Tips:

1. Recall the main points of a story: WHO / WHAT / WHERE / WHEN / and WHY?
2. WHAT was the problem/action in the story and HOW was it resolved?