

Literacy Strategies - At Home Ideas

1. After your child has read an article, chapter in a book etc, use the prompt card provided to ask you child questions about what they have read.
These are the types of questions your child might be asked at school. You can include some of these questions when you talk about reading at home too.
2. The following questions require your child to get clues from the text to answer:
How do you think the character was feeling?
How would you change the ending?
How would you describe the changes in the character/setting?

3. These questions require your child to refer back to the text:
What were the characters' names?
What was the setting?
What did each character do?
What happened at the beginning, middle and end of the text?
4. The following questions require your child to think about the main messages:

- What do you think is the main message in the story or text?
- Can you relate it to another event or issue?
- Do you agree with the views of the author?
- What is your opinion about the message in the story?
- How could other people see it differently?

Share ideas about texts

Talk to your child about how you select books for your own reading. After your child has read a text, encourage him or her to share insights, feelings and understandings of the text.

5. Here are some ideas that may suit your child's interests:
Read about the author or illustrator at their website.
Find and read another story by the same author.
Follow the instructions from the text to create something, for example, recipes, making models, or origami (Japanese paper folding).
See the link at <http://www.origami.com/index.html> for examples and instructions.
Read several articles together on the same issue to get more than one opinion.

- Discuss the different views expressed.
- View a movie based on a book and make comparisons.
- Draw or paint pictures about the scenes or characters from a story. Draw these online by clicking the Draw link on the Connect-Primary website.



Make music to match the text by clicking the Explore or Make Music links on the Connect-Primary website.

Visit Connect-Primary at: www.education.vic.gov.au/primary

Encourage your child to read or write with a specific purpose in mind

Some ideas include:

6. Read a book or film review by clicking the Review link on the Connect-Primary website and then you and your child can add your own review.

Listen to and view texts on the internet, MP3 or other digital audio player. Click on the Listen link on the Connect-Primary website to watch and listen to stories.

Read, collect, experiment with and write recipes to create a cookbook.

Find out facts about the world by clicking the Find link on the Connect-Primary website.

Use instant messaging to communicate with family and friends together.

Keep a diary where your child can record events, feelings etc. Make and write greeting cards.

Write a shopping list for a recipe you and your child wish to make. Capture video of your own review using a web camera, or the movie function of a digital camera or mobile phone. View other videos made by children by clicking the Watch link on the Connect-Primary website.

Play appropriate computer games that require reading.

Download podcasts to listen and discuss.

Join a blog to read and to make contributions together.

Family Projects

7. Reading a book series together

Reading a set of instructions for a new item together to find out how it works

Solving crosswords, word puzzles, brain teasers, playing word games and quizzes together.

Following a map or brochure on an outing, including reading public transport timetables and information signs at public sights.

