



Reading Tips for 5th Graders

Fifth Grade

- The most important predictor of reading success is time spent reading with a parent. Help your child develop a love of reading by reading together every day.
- Help your child select a variety of different kinds of reading materials such as fiction, non-fiction, short stories, novels, or poetry. Scan the newspaper together for articles of interest to your child. Read and discuss together.
- Encourage your child to write. Provide a variety of opportunities for diary (or journal) writing, creating original stories, or writing letters to friends and relatives.
- Build vocabulary by discussing new places, people, projects, and activities. Talk about a story together, asking your child to recall facts, discuss characters, and make predictions about what will happen next. Read a familiar book with your child. There's nothing like an old favorite.
- Set a good example. Let your child see you reading.

Reading Essential Skills Your Child Should Know

- Use synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms.
- Identify elements of story structure (setting, characters, plot, and resolution).
- Recognize and interpret relationships in text (e.g., cause/effect, problem/solution, compare/contrast, and sequential order).
- Identify characteristics of various genres (contemporary realistic fiction, historical fiction, nonfiction, modern fantasy, poetry, drama, fairy tales, myths, and legends).
- Determine main idea of a story.
- Make inferences and draw conclusions.
- Determine author's purpose (inform, persuade, describe, or tell a story).
- Summarize events and details.



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