

## **Reading Tips for Parents**

1. Read aloud together with your child every day (ten minutes a day can make a surprisingly big difference!). For younger children, point out the relationship between words and sounds.
2. Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it. This develops habits “of the mind” and builds capacity for thought and insight. Ask open-ended probes as opposed to questions that have single answers.
3. Let kids choose what they want to read. Do not take a “dictator” position with reading choices. It will only discourage the reading habit.
4. Increase your child’s auditory attention during car travel. Buy books on tape and listen to them in the car as you are commuting from activity to activity.
5. Take your children to the library regularly. While you are there check out a book for yourself.
6. Subscribe, in your child's name, to a children's magazine.
7. Encourage your child to keep up the reading habit over the summer and assist them in developing vocabulary.
8. Help to foster a pen pal relationship by encouraging your child to write to a good school friend during summer vacation.
9. Set a good example! Model reading for your child.

**Praise and encourage all types of reading!**

## Reading Possibilities:

Clifford, Edith . **Help I'm a Prisoner in the Library!** Ages 9 -12

Two girls spend an adventurous night trapped inside the public library during a terrible blizzard.

George, Jean. **Julie of the Wolves** Ages 9 - 12

While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended a wolf pack. *1973 Newbery Award Winner*

MacLachlan, Patricia. **Sarah, Plain and Tall** Ages 9 - 12

This small gem tells the story of two children and the quiet, strong woman who they hope will marry their father. Perfect for reading aloud. *Newbery Award Winner*

Naylor, Phyllis. **Shiloh** Ages 9-12

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man who shoots deer out of season and mistreats his dogs.

O'Dell, Scott. **Island of the Blue Dolphins.** Ages 9-12

In this modern classic, twelve-year-old Karana must survive alone for years on a California island. *Newbery Award Winner*

Steig, William. **Abel's Island** Ages 9 - 12

Castaway on an uninhabited island, Abel, a very civilized mouse, finds his resourcefulness and endurance tested to the limit as he struggles to survive and return home.

Thompson, Kay. **Eloise.** Ages 4-8.

Eloise is one of a kind. She tears around the Plaza Hotel in New York, driving adults crazy and having a terrific time. It is no surprise that this incorrigible girl has been popular for more than forty years.

### **Sure-fire hits for beginning chapter book readers:**

*Ages 6 - 9*

Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park - approximately 21 titles in the series

Marvin Redpost by Louis Sachar – approximately 15 titles in the series