

# HOME LITERACY BOOKLET

## What parents need to know about learning to read.

Learning to read is a complex process. In Rockford, we use the research that explains how students learn to read to guide assessment, instruction, and intervention. The Simple View of Reading defines skilled reading as reading comprehension. Reading comprehension is the product of word recognition and language comprehension. This is expressed by a common equation:



Word Recognition explains what young readers must learn in order to decode printed words accurately and quickly. Language comprehension represents vocabulary and background knowledge and how they affect overall comprehension. Together, word recognition and language comprehension make up the important subcomponents for skilled reading. This model and research around reading represent the way in which we approach learning to read at Rockford Public Schools. This research is called The Science of Reading.



What can you do to help at home?

## Keep them Interested

1. Let your child choose their reading material.
2. Talk about what they are reading.
3. If they are struggling or bored with a book, allow them to put it down.
4. Sometimes it is ok to read past bedtime.
5. Play games that involve reading, such as Scrabble, Boggle, and Wordle.
6. Visit bookstores or the library.
7. Allow access to audiobooks, especially if they are following along with the book.
8. Model reading.
9. Listen to your child read.

\*Adapted from *20 Ways to Keep Your Middle Schooler Interested in Reading*, Scholastic

## Resources

Sora



KDL eBooks and Audio Books



What is Reading Comprehension?



What is Fluency?



## Word Decoding

1. Circle any prefixes.
2. Circle any suffixes.
3. Underline the vowels.
4. Say the parts of the words.
5. Say the whole word.
6. Make it a real word.

expansion



## Build Fluency

1. Parents can model fluent reading.
2. Set a timer and see how many words are read correctly in a minute.
3. Students read aloud to siblings or pets.
4. Use decoding skills for large words.



## Build Comprehension

1. Ask your child questions about what they are reading: the setting, the characters, the conflict, etc.
2. Help your child make predictions about what might happen next.
3. Compare a book with the movie.
4. Start a family book club.

Be in the know.

## Websites for Parents

Reading Partners  
Resources Hub

Book lists, articles,  
activities and more.



Reading Rockets  
Literacy at Home

Reading 101 Guide for Parents



## Your Child's Language Arts Curriculum

6th Grade



7th and 8th Grade



Students access through Hello ID.



## Strategies for Reading at Home

- Create a special place for reading. Give your child a cozy, inviting space they will want to read in.
- Set aside a specific time for reading each day.
- Be a reading role model. Grab a book or magazine and read at the same time your child does.
- Have a family book club. This gives everyone a common discussion topic.

\*Adapted from "How to Develop Reading Habits for your child" - Scholastic



## More Tips for At Home Reading

- Allow students to find books that interest them. Talk about current likes and dislikes to help guide their choices.
- Read for at least 20 minutes a day at home. Research shows this helps build comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency.
- Encourage reading books in a series. This makes the statement, "I don't know what to read next", easier to answer.
- Audiobooks are real books! Allow your child to follow along with the text.
- Add Graphic Novels and books written in verse to the rotation for quicker reads mixed in with longer chapter books.

