

Parents As Partners

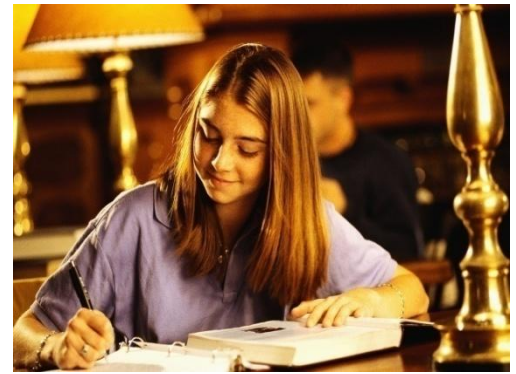
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Education

Parents As Partners



- Obtain library cards for your children and let them choose a book to check out.
- Read aloud to your children-be a literate role model / Have your child read aloud to you
- Ask opened ended questions about the reading material
- Listen to children with two ears
- Set time aside to talk with your child about their school life
- Take every opportunity to make experiences at home learning experiences i.e.. cooking activities- measuring

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- Singing songs-improves auditory memory
- Rhyming words-improves language skills in young children
- Coloring/pasting/scissor cutting are all pre-writing skills
- Have a specific space where your child can do his homework
- Have available resources-dictionary/thesaurus
- Build a reading atmosphere at home

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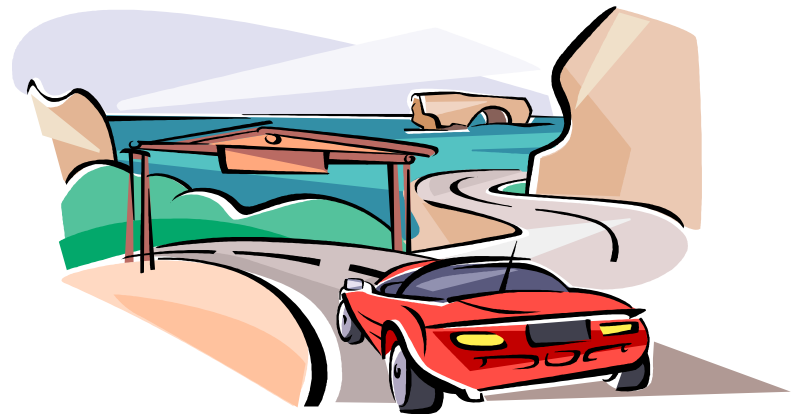
Travel Activities

- Give older children road maps and highlighter pens. Have the child mark your route.
- Ask the child the direction you are traveling
- Encourage you child to write to the Chamber of Commerce for brochures about places that you plan on visiting during your trip.



Travel Activities Continued

- Bring along reading materials for the road trip.
- Before leaving on your trip visit you local library and check out books on tape and have the whole family listen to the book and have a family discussion. (while eating special treats!)



Television



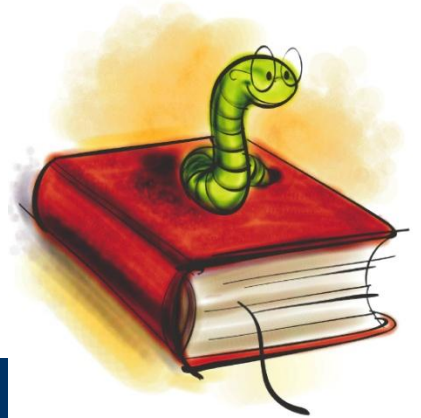
- Limit TV watching to free up time for reading.
- Allow your child to select a program to watch and have him/her write a persuasive paragraph as to why they should be allowed to view the program.
- Buy gift cards from your favorite local bookstore. (\$5.00)

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- Ask you child's teacher to share the titles of favorite books for children their age.
- Look for "garage sales"-books frequently sell for .25
- Get a schedule from your local library for their "Summertime Program" (storytelling time, youth book club, puppet shows, etc.)

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- Teach shapes by cutting sandwiches into different shapes
- Surround your child with Reading Materials
- Read scary stories with the lights out using a flashlight (some kids)
- Help your child make their own storybook-illustrations and all !!

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- Explore measurement in the kitchen, in fashion and design, in construction, in home decoration, with tools, with temperature, in travel, with time, in scale models, and for science and social studies.



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- After reading a story or chapter with your child, or even after watching a TV show or movie, have him or her tell you what the story was about. You can have him or her draw a picture of his or her favorite part of the story and then write a few sentences that express the main idea.

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- Have the child read aloud to you for twenty minutes. Upon finishing, have him or her describe to you, in his or her own words, what's just been read.

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- Each day after school or in the evenings, have your child tell you one or two stories about the day. Then, ask the child to make a newspaper headline to describe the event or events. These headlines are the main idea



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- Have your child tell you a story about his or her day. Prompt him or her to give you details to help you get a clear idea about the story. Talk about why those details are important.
- After reading a longer story or seeing a movie, have your child write down all the events that happened, each one on a slip of paper or on an index card. Put them into a hat or bowl and mix them up. Then, help your child put the events into a timeline, based on when they happened.

Parent-Teacher Conference Tips

US Department of Education

- Take advantage of parent-teacher conferences during the school year. Think of some questions and concerns you may have and write them down before your meeting. Keep track of your child's schoolwork to help with your questions. You are in a position to share important information as well as ask questions. Remember, you can and should talk to your child's teacher throughout the year.

Parent-Teacher Conference Tips

US Department of Education

Questions to ask for students in all grades:

- Is my child performing at grade level?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses in reading, math, and science?
- How much time should my child spend on homework?
- Are my child's assignments completed accurately?
- Does the school have special programs to meet my child's needs?

Parent-Teacher Conference Tips

US Department of Education

- Does my child have special learning needs? Are there special classes my child should be in?
- Do you keep a folder of my child's work? If yes, could you review it with me?
- Does my child have close friends? How well does my child get along with the other students?
- What is the best way to keep in touch with you?

Parent-Teacher Conference Tips

US Department of Education

Additional Questions for middle and high school students:

- How can I help my child to work independently and make the best use of time?
- How can I help my child prepare for high school?
- What can you tell me about peer pressure and how I can help my child handle difficult situations ?

Family Involvement

For Additional information on family or community involvement, please contact:

The Florida Department of Education
Office of Family and Community Outreach
Phone: 850-245-0847