



Imagine Schools Kindergarten

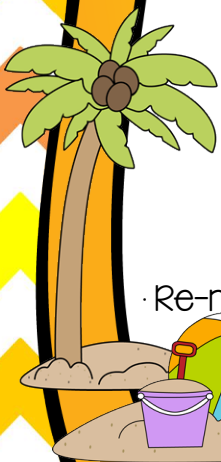
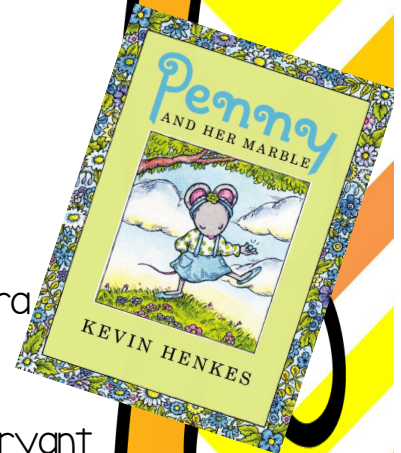
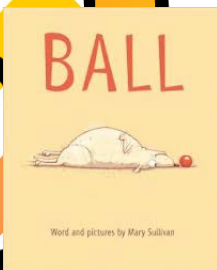
Top Ten Fun Summer Reads

1. *Splash* (Anna Hibiscus) by Atinke
2. *Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: Partners* by Erica Silverman
3. *The House on East 88th Street* by Bernard Waber
4. *King Bidgood's in the Bathtub*
by Audrey Wood & Don Wood
5. *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*
by Virginia Lee Burton
6. *Flora and the Flamingo* by Molly Idle
7. *Ball* by Mary Sullivan
8. *The Princess and the Pea* by Rachel Isadora
9. *Penny and Her Marble* by Kevin Henkes
10. *A Splash of Red:*

The Life and Art of Horace Pippin by Jen Bryant

How to Read with a Beginning Reader

- Echo read with your child. You read one sentence & your child echoes back the sentence. This helps build fluency & reading with expression.
- Have your child follow along with the text using his/her pointer finger.
- Talk about the text! Make comments & ask questions.
- Read to your child & listen to your child read!
- Re-read the same books. This helps your child build fluency.



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TIPS | for parents of Kindergartners

Play with letters, words, and sounds! Having fun with language helps your child learn to crack the code of reading. The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Talk to your child.

Ask your child to talk about his day at school. Encourage him to explain something they did, or a game he played during recess.

■ Say silly tongue twisters.

Sing songs, read rhyming books, and say silly tongue twisters. These help kids become sensitive to the sounds in words.

■ Read it and experience it.

Connect what your child reads with what happens in life. If reading a book about animals, relate it to your last trip to the zoo.

■ Use your child's name.

Point out the link between letters and sounds. Say, "John, the word *jump* begins with the same sound as your name. *John, jump*. And they both begin with the same letter, J."

■ Play with puppets.

Play language games with puppets. Have the puppet say, "My name is *Mark*. I like words that rhyme with my name. Does *park* rhyme with *Mark*? Does *ball* rhyme with *Mark*?"

■ Trace and say letters.

Have your child use a finger to trace a letter while saying the letter's sound. Do this on paper, in sand, or on a plate of sugar.

■ Write it down.

Have paper and pencils available for your child to use for writing. Working together, write a sentence or two about something special. Encourage your child to use the letters and sounds he or she is learning about in school.

■ Play sound games.

Practice blending sounds into words. Ask "Can you guess what this word is? *m - o - p*." Hold each sound longer than normal.

■ Read it again and again.

Go ahead and read your child's favorite book for the 100th time! As you read, pause and ask your child about what is going on in the book.

■ Talk about letters and sounds.

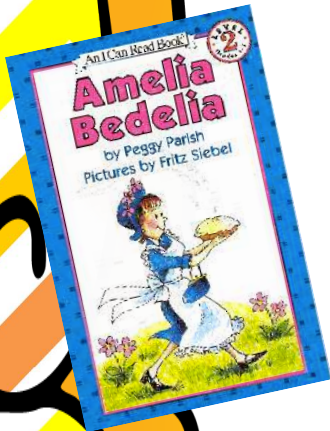
Help your child learn the names of the letters and the sounds the letters make. Turn it into a game! "I'm thinking of a letter and it makes the sound mmmmmm."

Visit www.ReadingRockets.org for more information on how you can launch a child into a bright future through reading.



Imagine Schools First Grade

Top Ten Fun Summer Reads



1. *Ish* by Peter H. Reynolds
2. *Clara and Asha* by Eric Rohmann
3. *Pet Show!* by Ezra Jack Keats
4. *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Stories to Read Together* by Mary Ann Hoberman, Michael Emberley
5. *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins
6. *Rapunzel* by Paul O. Zelinsky
7. *Dancing in the Wings* by Debbie Allen
8. *Amelia Bedelia* by Peggy Parish
9. *The Incredible Book Eating Boy* by Oliver Jeffers
10. *Teeth, Tails, and Tentacles* by Christopher Wormell

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TIPS | for parents of First Graders

Give your child lots of opportunities to read aloud. Inspire your young reader to practice every day! The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ **Don't leave home without it.**

Bring along a book or magazine any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's office. Always try to fit in reading!

■ **Once is not enough.**

Encourage your child to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately.

■ **Dig deeper into the story.**

Ask your child questions about the story you've just read. Say something like, "Why do you think Clifford did that?"

■ **Take control of the television.**

It's difficult for reading to compete with TV and video games. Encourage reading as a free-time activity.

■ **Be patient.**

When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give him or her time to do so. Remind your child to look closely at the first letter or letters of the word.

■ **Pick books that are at the right level.**

Help your child pick books that are not too difficult. The aim is to give your child lots of successful reading experiences.

■ **Play word games.**

Have your child sound out the word as you change it from *mat* to *fat* to *sat*; from *sat* to *sag* to *sap*; and from *sap* to *sip*.

■ **I read to you, you read to me.**

Take turns reading aloud at bedtime. Kids enjoy this special time with their parents.

■ **Gently correct your young reader.**

When your child makes a mistake, gently point out the letters he or she overlooked or read incorrectly. Many beginning readers will guess wildly at a word based on its first letter.

■ **Talk, talk, talk!**

Talk with your child every day about school and things going on around the house. Sprinkle some interesting words into the conversation, and build on words you've talked about in the past.

■ **Write, write, write!**

Ask your child to help you write out the grocery list, a thank you note to Grandma, or to keep a journal of special things that happen at home. When writing, encourage your child to use the letter and sound patterns he or she is learning at school.

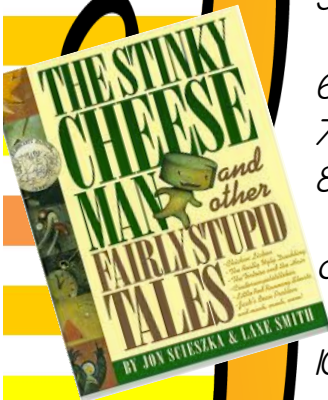
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Imagine Schools Second Grade

Top Ten Fun Summer Reads

1. *Mr. Wuffles!* by David Wiesner
2. *Journey* by Aaron Becker
3. *Locomotive* by Brian Floca
4. *Blackout* by John Rocco
5. *Fancy Nancy: Nancy Clancy Sees the Future* by Jane O'Connor
6. *The Stranger* by Chris Van Allsburg
7. *Eleanor, Quiet No More* by Doreen Rappaport
8. *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Stories* by Jon Scieszka
9. *I have a Dream* by Martin Luther King Jr.
Illustrator Kadir Nelson
10. *The Sea King's Daughter: A Russian Legend* by Aaron Shepard



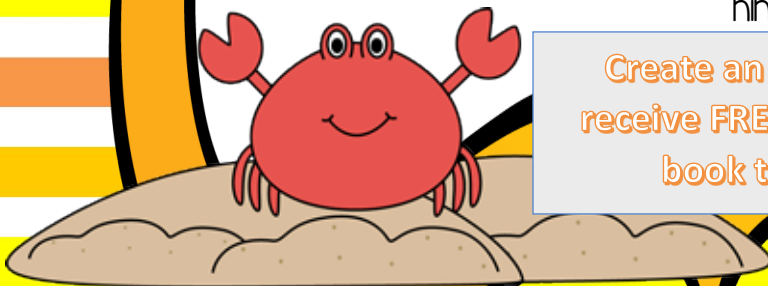
How to Support your Young Reader

Provide lots of reading and writing materials at home.

Be a role model for your child. Read for pleasure or knowledge on a daily basis.

Press for achievement. Let your child know you believe him/her & expect success!

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TIPS | for parents of Second Graders

Find ways to read, write, and tell stories together with your child. Always applaud your young reader and beginning story writer! The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Tell family tales.

Children love to hear stories about their family. Talk about a funny thing that happened when you were young.

■ Create a writing toolbox.

Fill a box with drawing and writing materials. Find opportunities for your child to write, such as the shopping list, thank you notes, or birthday cards.

■ Be your child's #1 fan.

Ask your child to read aloud what he or she has written for school. Be an enthusiastic listener.

■ One more time with feeling.

When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word, have him or her re-read that sentence. Often kids are so busy figuring out a word they lose the meaning of what they've just read.

■ Invite an author to class.

Ask an author to talk to your child's class about the writing process. Young children often think they aren't smart enough if they can't sit down and write a perfect story on the first try.

■ Create a book together.

Fold pieces of paper in half and staple them to make a book. Ask your child to write sentences on each page and add his or her own illustrations.

■ Do storytelling on the go.

Take turns adding to a story the two of you make up while riding in a car or bus. Try making the story funny or spooky.

■ Point out the relationship between words.

Explain how related words have similar spellings and meanings. Show how a word like *knowledge*, for example, relates to a word like *know*.

■ Use a writing checklist.

Have your child create a writing checklist with reminders such as, "Do all of my sentences start with a capital? Yes/No."

■ Quick, quick.

Use new words your child has learned in lively flash card or computer drills. Sometimes these help kids automatically recognize and read words, especially those that are used frequently.

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