

# Boost Reading Skills!

## Kindergarten

- Read directions to your student when completing a project.
- Check out a magazine for your student (*Ladybug, Your Big Backyard, Zoobooks*, etc.) to learn about topics of interest to him. He/She will be excited about having his own reading materials.
- Pick a storybook character (Arthur, Strega Nona, etc.) and pretend that character is coming to visit. Help your student plan activities that character would like.
- Help your student relate read-aloud stories to events in his/her life.

## Grades 1-3

- Check out a magazine for your student (*Spider, Ranger Rick*, etc.) to learn about topics of interest to him/her.
- After reading a non-fiction story, ask your student why he/she thinks the author wrote the story.
- Help your student create charts and posters about topics of interest to her/him.
- Read picture books by the same author (Tomie DePaola, Bill Martin, Jr., etc.) and compare and contrast them: How are they the same? How are they different?



## Grades 4-8

- Help your student with the latest experiment in his/her science book. Talk through each step and discuss what you're going to do next.
- Pick a different country each week, and challenge him/her to learn a bit more about that country by visiting the library or researching it online.
- Encourage your student to read series books (*Harry Potter, Lemony Snicket, The Chronicles of Narnia, Little House on the Prairie*, etc).

## Grades 9-12

- Read various types of directions (recipes, technical instructions, experiments) and determine the usefulness of the instructions to the reader's life.
- Quiz your student when he/she has a test. This not only reinforces his/her [note-taking skills and study habits](#), but also helps [reading comprehension](#).
- Encourage your student to talk about the latest book he/she is reading. Ask him/her to share his/her favorite scenes.
- Read classic works (novels, plays, myths, etc.) and compare to today's world.
- Read books by the same author, comparing and contrasting style across the various books.

Sylvan Learning. (2010). Ready, Set, Read! How to Develop Your Child's Reading Skills at Every Grade Level. *Sylvan Learning*. Retrieved Nov 4, 2010, from [http://tutoring.sylvanlearning.com/develop\\_reading\\_skills\\_article.cfm](http://tutoring.sylvanlearning.com/develop_reading_skills_article.cfm).