

Reading Tips for the Parents of Children in Grade 3

- Encourage your child to read a variety of books (fiction, non-fiction, mystery, biography) and introduce them to book series like The Boxcar Children and The Magic Tree House books. Find out which types of books your child likes most.
- Encourage your child to look up words in a dictionary. Children's dictionaries are great since they have larger print and fewer words on each page. Your child's teacher may have a children's dictionary that you can borrow.



- Point out the settings (where a story takes place), characters (who is in the story), problem in the story, messages and main ideas in the books that your child reads. Remind your child to read newspapers and magazines too!
- Encourage your child to organize his or her writing into parts when completing writing assignments. Remind your child that their first draft is only the beginning of the writing process and that there are ways to improve.
- Talk to your child often about what your child sees and does. Talking provides your child with knowledge and teaches your child to be a great listener. Ask your child questions about things they do independently and things you both do together. Remember that the more you talk to your child, the more practice they get taking turns in conversation. Remember to also talk with your child's teacher about what is being learned in school.
- Help your child to understand what they've read by reading the things they read and then asking the questions about it. This helps your child to understand and remember what they've read. This is called reading comprehension.
- Play games with your child that will make their reading and writing skills stronger. Made-up games, computer games, and board games help your child to build their vocabulary, develop reading comprehension and make learning fun!
- Give your child opportunities each day to tell you stories. Ask your child what happened in their classroom or which activity they liked best at school.
- Establish a time to look at your child's class work and homework. Praise your child by telling them "nice work" for the work they have done and ask your child to tell you about their work.