

Keeping Our Kids Engaged

During this time of online instruction, it is critical that we find ways to make learning accessible, fun, and impactful. So, as a teacher and reading specialist, I have some ideas that I would like to share.

Read Alouds Amped Up

Read Alouds are powerful if done correctly. When you read out loud to your child, **model out loud** what good readers do.

*Good readers have wonderings.

*Good readers ask questions.

*Good readers reread the text to get answers to their questions.

*Good readers become invested in the characters just like in movies, and often have visible reactions to the events that are unfolding.

*Remember to keep it simple. Pick **one** or **two** places in the story to stop, model and explode your thinking. Then move on. Don't overdo it.

GO DEEPER! Question Stems for Fiction Text

Aside from asking, who are the characters, where did the story take place, and what happened when..., parents can get so much deeper in their questioning.

*From listening to the story so far, what do you know about this character?

*How did you know what ____ was feeling?

*What did you think about the character in the beginning of the story? What did you think about the character at the end of the story?

*How are the characters alike? How are they different?



Being Resourceful:

*Free Reading, Math and LA Games
www.abcya.com

*Free gardening activities and crafts
<https://kidsgardening.org>
<https://lifestyle.howstuffworks.com>

*Free building activities
<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com>