



Reading Independently:
Creating Lifelong Readers

The Primary School Years

The more kids read the
better readers they become.

Recommended Resources

Visit the library. It's free.

The following sites have helpful information for parents.

www.kids-bookreview.com/

www.trevorcairney.blogspot.com.au/

www.ReadKiddoRead.com

GuysRead.com

www.readitlovedit.com/home.html For children 10+

www.scholastic.com/parents/

www.readingrockets.org

and don't forget to check us out!

www.cbca.org.au/

www.cbcatas.org

www.cbcatas.blogspot.com.au/



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What to look for in books for the beginning reader

- ☆ Fun stories with repetitive text, rhyming words
- ☆ Simple words with no more than one or two new words
- ☆ Illustrations that clearly support the text
- ☆ Simple chapter books
- ☆ A mix of fiction and nonfiction

What you can do

- ☆ Ask your child to read...recipes, street signs, in the supermarket...
- ☆ Let your child pick a book; take turns reading paragraphs or pages to each other
- ☆ Read books that are a little too hard for them to read themselves (so they can enjoy a more complicated story and learn new words)
- ☆ Re-read lines your child found funny
- ☆ Use audio books



Which books interest the confident reader?

- ☆ Joke books
- ☆ Comic books, but make sure they're not too dark and scary
- ☆ Poetry, including verse novels
- ☆ Books about science, dinosaurs, bugs, outer space, volcanoes...
- ☆ Magic tricks, simple experiments
- ☆ Series books – where your child can become familiar with a character
- ☆ Ebooks similar to the printed books your child is reading

What you can do

- ☆ Be a role model – show you value reading by reading yourself
- ☆ Talk about the characters and plot of the story that you are reading together
- ☆ Ensure reading at home is fun, reading for school is very different to reading for home
- ☆ Have family reading time
- ☆ Encourage your child to read to younger children



What to look for in books for the newly independent reader

- ☆ Simple plot and fast paced action
- ☆ Eye catching covers
- ☆ A character who is a hero – e.g. a dragon slayer or eco-warrior
- ☆ Gadgets, missions and adventures similar to video games
- ☆ Chapter books with pictures
- ☆ Larger text so your child's eyes follow the lines easily

What you can do

- ☆ Buy a simple dictionary and use it to check the meanings of new words
- ☆ Have a wide variety of books, magazines and comics in your home
- ☆ Share in your child's enjoyment of the book

