

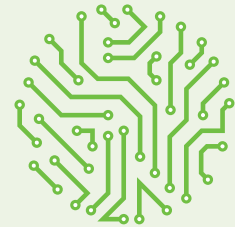
**Why Literacy Matters** Literacy and good health are connected! Reading builds resilience—the strength to handle the ups and downs of life. Below are some ways that reading regularly can help your child grow.

Reading regularly and discussing what was read **raises a child's IQ by 6 points.**

**IQ**



Spending quality time reading, talking, and listening **strengthens the parent-child bond.**



**Reading creates new brain pathways.** Readers have better memories!

Reading for just six minutes can **reduce stress levels by up to**

**60%**

and slow the heartbeat.

Reading for 20 minutes every day can help students score among the top **10% in standardized testing.**



**Reading together at bedtime** every night tells the body that it's time to sleep and **relaxes you.**

Strong readers are

**2.5x**

more likely to earn

**\$850**

or more a week.



Children who read are more likely to make logical decisions. They also have better judgment!

Reading, especially fiction books, **increases empathy.** Readers know better what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes.



Well-read kids are more likely to "think first"



before becoming angry or emotional.

Engaging daily with your child in a variety of literacy activities can be easy and fun for the entire family. When combined with your child's books and available literacy apps, these additional home literacy activities can play a vital part in shaping your child into a lifelong learner.



#### **COMPARE**

a whole orange to the *main idea of a story*, the sections inside representing *key details*. Everyday objects can help explain core skills!

#### **PLAY WORD GAMES,**

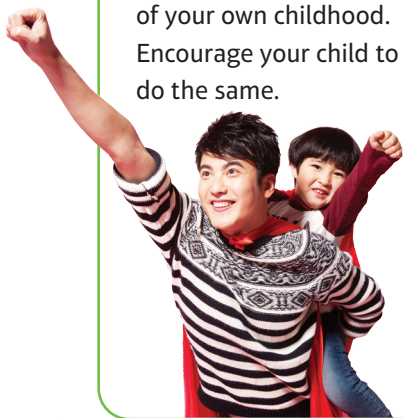
such as *I Spy* or *20 Questions*, that require the use of grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. While playing, ask your child to use synonyms and antonyms (*I spy something big, huge, large, or not small*).



**ROLE-PLAYING** is a great way for your child to share feelings and express emotions about everyday life at home and school, or to imagine how it feels to be on an adventure.

#### **MAKE REAL-LIFE**

**CONNECTIONS** when reading with your child. Look out for a part in a story that reminds you of your own childhood. Encourage your child to do the same.



**DANCE** with your child as you read books together, encouraging movement as a response to what you read.

**BE A READING ROLE MODEL.** Read as often as you can, making sure your child sees you enjoying it. During read-alouds, read with expression! Encourage your child to recognize characters' individual voices by changing your own voice to match.





### TREASURE HUNTS

are a fun way to practice following directions. Take turns hiding objects in your home and writing a simple list of steps the hunter must complete in order to find them.



**GET AN INEXPENSIVE, LAP-SIZED WHITE-BOARD** and erasable markers so your child can write and draw in the car, while watching TV, or during read-alouds.

### COLLECT AND SAVE

circulars, free magazines, newspapers, and other free print to create a story with images.



### USE PRINT ADS

as opportunities for your child to identify and practice using punctuation. Together, point out periods and the first words of sentences.

### DRAW A TIMELINE

of your child's life together. Use sequencing words such as *first*, *next*, *after*, and *finally* as you share. You can do one for everyone in the family.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5 feet

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 1/2 in

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 feet



### LAUGH IT UP!

Telling jokes, puns, and riddles and clowning around all build humor and storytelling skills. They also boost confidence and creativity.



# The Top 7 Ways You Can Support Your Child's Literacy

## 1. Keep a wide variety of reading materials in your home.

- ▶ Books, borrowed or bought
- ▶ Newspapers
- ▶ Magazines
- ▶ Flyers
- ▶ Brochures
- ▶ Owner's manuals

## 2. Talk, sing, and play with your child.

- ▶ Sing songs and recite nursery rhymes
- ▶ Tell family stories
- ▶ Make up stories
- ▶ Draw, make books
- ▶ Play games together
- ▶ Ask questions and listen

## 3. Let your child know that you believe he or she can be an outstanding reader and student.

- ▶ Write uplifting notes
- ▶ Praise your growing reader
- ▶ Gift books and other literacy materials
- ▶ Ask your child to read to you

## 4. Show that you believe reading is important.

- ▶ Read daily
- ▶ Read aloud
- ▶ Share your reading
- ▶ Carry a book around with you

## 5. Be actively bilingual, if possible.

- ▶ Use both languages
- ▶ Read books in both languages
- ▶ Celebrate your culture
- ▶ Use closed-captioning

## 6. Talk to your child's teachers.

- ▶ Share details about your child
- ▶ Ask for help if needed
- ▶ Listen and support teachers' goals and concerns
- ▶ Speak up

## 7. Engage with libraries online.

- ▶ Apply for a library card (can be done online)
- ▶ Take advantage of all of the activities and literacy resources your library offers

Photos ©: (orange, top left) Christian Jung/Dreamstime. All other photos © Getty Images and Shutterstock.com. Icons by The Noun Project. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, or used to train any artificial intelligence technologies, without the express written permission of the publisher. For information regarding permission, write to Scholastic Inc., 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012. Copyright © Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved. Published by Scholastic Inc. Printed in the U.S.A. ISBN 979-8-225-03385-9 • SCHOLASTIC and associated logos are trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Scholastic Inc. Other company names, brand names, and product names are the property and/or trademarks of their respective owners. Scholastic does not endorse any product or business entity mentioned herein.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 XX 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25

Scholastic Inc., 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012



scholastic.com

Grades 1–2

ISBN-13: 979-8-225-03385-9



9 798225 033859