

Reading Begins at Home

November

Fluency:

Re-reading—Students benefit from reading favorite stories over and over. The Dr. Seuss books are great for this, though any favorite book, words to a song or poem will do. Try reading using different voices for the characters, or in silly voices.

Comprehension:

Visualizing

Mental pictures are the cinema unfolding in your mind that make reading three-dimensional. Visualization helps readers engage with text in ways that make it personal and memorable. Readers adapt their images as they continue to read.

As you read aloud to your child, have them stop and make a mental picture of an aspect of the story. They can share what they visualize.

Ask your child what they imagine as you read. Try to incorporate the five senses.

What do you hear? Smell? See? Feel? Taste?

Non-Book Reading Activities:

- **Learn how to...** Is there something your child would really like to do, such as perform magic tricks or add sequins to her jeans? Encourage her to find out how by reading about it. She can read instructions in do-it-yourself kits or download information from the Web, then look for related books.
- **Take a road trip.** Write down travel directions and have your child serve as navigator when you drive.

Tips for Listening to Your Child Read:

Help with stumpers. If your child encounters a new, difficult word that is key to understanding the sentence or passage he's reading, or that recurs frequently, step in to pronounce and define it for him.

