

Reading Begins at Home

October

Fluency:

Sight words—Children who have a large vocabulary of words they know at sight have an advantage. Practice sight words from the Fry list (available from your teacher). Write each word on two index cards. Play Go Fish, Old Maid, or Memory. Quiz your child with flashcards.

Comprehension:

Questioning Proficient readers are always asking questions while they read. Questions help students clarify and deepen understanding of the text they are reading.

Before Reading have your child think about what predictions they have for the story. What do they think the story is about?

During Reading have your child think of questions to ask that begin with “I wonder...” or ask about information that may be confusing. Then, determine if the answer can be found in the text, the picture, with prior knowledge, by researching or by making an inference.

After Reading give your child the opportunity to ask any clarifying questions about the story.

Non-Book Reading Activities:

- **Make cards.** Have your child make her own cards for holidays, birthdays, party invitations, and thank-yous. Help her write a personal message to each recipient.
- **Write messages for your child.** Even if you spend hours together in the same room, there are many reasons to write to your child. Drop a letter in her school bag or e-mail her a joke she can forward to her friends. Post a list of chores on the refrigerator and write family news or appointments on a wall calendar.

Tips for Listening to Your Child Read: September’s Hint was to bite your tongue... but,

Speak up for sense. An exception to the stay-mum rule: Gently correct your child if he alters the meaning of a sentence by skipping or substituting an important word.

