

Supporting Your Child In Literacy Development - Session # 2



Thank you so much for taking the time to view this information. This is Session # 2 of 6 sessions that will be available to you via PDF or video tutorial. Each session will focus on a specific reading comprehension strategy and ways in which you can support your child at home.

This month I will be giving you information on the phases of reading development, how it begins, and what you will notice as your child develops. I will also focus on the specific reading comprehension strategy of connecting and give you a list of discussion prompts that may work for you and your family to support the development of your child. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me via email at april.zakresky@psd.ca or call Prescott Learning Centre at **780-571-8079**.

Phases of Reading Development (These are things you may have noticed as your child reads)

Phase 1 - Roleplay reading (Displays reading like behaviors)

- Holding book right way up
- Flipping pages the right way
- Looking at words and pictures
- Using pictures to construct ideas

Phase # 2 - Experimental Reading

- Knows that print goes from left to right
- Identifies letters, words, sentences
- Asks for favorite stories to be read
- Can connect with ideas and events from a story



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Readers must master 5 fiction reading strategies to be truly competent at understanding what they read. These strategies by Adrienne Gear (Reading Power) include:

- Connecting
- Visualizing
- Questioning
- Inferring
- Transforming

The next 5 sessions will focus on each of these strategies by explaining what they are and how you as parents and guardians can support this development at home alongside teachers in the classroom.

Connecting:

Connecting allows readers to better understand the text that is being read to them or reading based on their own memories, experiences, and knowledge.

Ex. sometimes we read something and we feel an emotional response to a certain character and events because we have experienced something similar, read, or viewing something that is similar.

There are actually 3 types of connections that can be made:

- If we have shared an experience like that in the book it is a **text to self-connection**
- If we have read or viewed something similar in the book it is a **text to text connection**
- If we have learned about something similar, we can make a **text to world connection**

This comprehension strategy is the easiest and is essential to learn how to visualize or make inferences or compare and contrast

Usually, our closest connections are to people we have shared experiences with. Emotional connections are the most powerful connections and are considered to be "Deep Thinking Connections."

So, how can you as parents and guardians help?

While you read to your child or after they have read ask them some questions:

Ex. Text to Self:

- What picture, character, or event reminds you of you or something that you have experienced?
- Has that ever happened to you before? Tell me more about that.
- Does that book, picture, character, chapter remind you of anything?

Ex. Text to Text:



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- Does that character, book, picture, or chapter remind you of a movie or any other book you have read? Tell me about that. Explain what happened.

Ex. Text to World:

- Did anything you read or saw in the book make you think of _____ (current or past event?) Explain or tell me more about that.

General Questions:

- Did anything in this story help you to understand.....?
- What connections did you make?
- What did you think about while you were reading?

Prompting Statements to encourage connecting while reading at home:

- Described something you have read or wanted that is similar to something in the book you read
- Describe something that you have experienced that is similar to something in the book you read.
- What character is most like you? Describe how he/she/they are similar to you.
- Describe a time when you faced a similar situation to the one experienced by the characters in the story.
- Describe a time when you felt the same way as one of the characters. What was happening to cause you to feel that way?
- Describe a situation that is happening in the world that is similar to something that happened in the book you read.

Even if you ask one of these questions or prompts every time your child reads, you are helping to activate their connecting skills and enhancing their reading comprehension skills.

Next month's session will focus on Visualizing as a reading for understanding strategy.