

Three simple strategies can boost reading comprehension

As your child gets older, he will be expected to read and understand more complex text. He will transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

To support this transition, share these reading comprehension strategies with your child:

1. See the big picture. Before he starts to read an assignment, have your child think about what he will be reading. What is the title of the chapter or assignment? Does it offer any clues about the content? Suggest he look for other clues, such as subheadings, words in boldface or italics, pictures or graphs.
2. Take notes. Taking notes while reading will make it easier for your child to comprehend and remember information. It will also make reading active and engaging. Your child should write down the most important ideas in the reading assignment. He should also write down any words he doesn't know so he can look them up later.
3. Make connections. The best way to remember new information is to relate it to something already learned. When your child finishes reading, have him answer questions such as: How is this topic similar to something else I know? What key ideas did I already know? What new information did I learn?

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