

Celebrate Reading

7-12

We read all the time!

Packaging, DVD covers, novels, newspapers, magazines, cartoons, games, computers, etc.

As a parent, I can...

- | create many opportunities to read in French
- | talk about the books I read, with my family and my friends
- | encourage my child to read to other people in French if possible or in another language
- | talk to my child about his or her reading choices (French texts, books and magazines at the library, the bookstore, or on the Internet)
- | offer French books or magazines as gifts
- | talk about what reading brings to us
- | know what reading topics are interesting for my child and also suggest new ones
- | encourage my child to take risks (choose more difficult books) while reading in French
- | accept that my child will make mistakes while reading
- | set up an enjoyable space for my child to read in French (various types of texts and authors, comfortable and cozy areas, supervised Internet access)
- | take an active interest in my child's school assignments

Strategic reading is...

Choosing the best way to help me better understand and interact with texts.

Recent studies say that teaching children to use specific reading strategies improves their learning, comprehension, and enjoyment.

As a parent, I should talk to my child and use some of the following questions, regardless of my level of understanding in French:

BEFORE READING

- | What are you reading today?
- | Are you seated comfortably for reading?
- | Will you have enough time to finish your reading?
- | Why are you reading this text?
- | Does this book or text seem interesting to you and why?
- | Does this text seem easy or hard for you and why?
- | What do you already know about this topic, or what does it remind you of?
- | What are you going to use to take notes while you read?
- | What strategies have you used in the past to help you read this type of text?
- | Will you need your *Référentiel*?



DURING READING

- | Who could give you help if you need it?
- | What tools could you use to help yourself?
- | Do you remember reading that kind of text with success?
- | What connections are you making between what you are reading and what you have read or experienced before?
- | What are the main ideas in this text, and how did you find them?
- | Is this text helping you with what you need to do?
- | What strategies from your *Référentiel* can you use to help you with this particular problem?

AFTER READING

- | What did this text give you?
- | How do you feel after reading this text?
- | What questions did this text trigger for you?
- | How will you use your notes to help you with the assignment you need to do?
- | Did the strategies you use help you to better understand the text and finish your project?
- | Which strategies will you be able to use in your future reading assignments?
- | What conclusions do you draw from this reading experience?

Enjoy Writing

7-12

We write often!

Birthday cards, notes, phone messages, lists, directions, reminders, course notes, etc.

As a parent I can...

- | take advantage of every opportunity to write in French
- | talk about the things I write
- | encourage my child to find a French-speaking pen pal
- | encourage my child to take risks (try new words, a new kind of text) while writing in French
- | support him or her in finding the meaning of difficult words
- | create an exciting environment for writing (various papers, personal diary, blank cards, neat pens and pencils, computer paper with different designs, calligraphy pens, computer, French dictionary, French encyclopedias, etc.)
- | create opportunities to write in front of my child in French if possible or in my mother tongue
- | take interest in my child's homework
- | encourage my child to present his or her work in a neat and organized way

Strategic writing is...

Determining the best way to complete a writing project with success.

A child who writes a lot and often in real life situations will practice more strategies and become a better writer.

As a parent, I should talk to my child and use some of the following questions, regardless of my level of understanding in French:

BEFORE WRITING

- | What are you writing about today?
- | Are you set up comfortably to write?
- | Do you think you will have enough time to finish your writing project?
- | For whom and why are you writing this text?
- | What do you know already about this topic?
- | Did you make a plan?

In a homework setting:

- | Are you required to do a draft copy, revisions, corrections, a good copy?
- | What tools can help you with this project?
- | Do you have your *Référentiel*?
- | What strategies have you used in the past to write something similar?



DURING THE WRITING PROCESS

- | Who can help you?
- | Can you recall writing this type of text with success?
- | What connections are you making between what you are writing and what you have read or experienced before?
- | What important ideas should you make sure to include in your text?
- | Is what you are writing truly what you want to say in this case?
- | What strategies from your *Référentiel* can you use to help you with this problem?

AFTER WRITING

- | How do you feel after writing this text?
- | What questions are you asking yourself right now?
- | How helpful were the notes you took prior to writing?
- | Did the strategies you used help you to write a better text?
- | What strategies could you use in future writing projects?
- | What will you do with this text now?
- | Talk to me about how you feel about this writing project.