



Reading and Writing Strategies for Parents to Use with Their Children

- **Set an Example** – Be a role model for your children. What they see at home is what they learn and will do. Reading to them or reading yourself will encourage them to read both for school and enjoyment!
- **Make Reading Fun!** – Comic books, crossword puzzles, word searches, games like Scrabble, Mad Gab, Taboo, or Boggle are inexpensive, fun ways to help your child improve their reading, spelling, and vocabulary skills.
- **Encourage writing** – Find opportunities for your child to write at home. A simple thank you note, grocery list, phone messages, or keeping a journal helps your child to improve and practice their writing skills at home.
- **Establish Routines** – When your child comes home from school what do they do? From the time they are little, set rules and routines for your child to follow when they come home from school until the time they go to bed. Have a special place for them to do their homework at that is not in the middle of all the noise and activity that is going on in the house. A quiet, comfortable, well-lit area is best. Be sure to set aside time every night to either read to your child or have them read by themselves. Ten minutes a night makes a big difference!
- **Monitor** – Pay attention to your child’s school work, praise their efforts, check their take home folders everyday, and feel free to contact their teacher or principal if there is ever a concern or question. We need to work together in order to make your child successful in school.
- **Talk** – Just talking to your child about how their day was, what they did in school, what homework they have, etc. shows them that you value school and are interested in what they are doing there. A simple 5 minute conversation goes a long way!