

A Special Note

While it is good to encourage and support your child's efforts to learn English, research shows that children who are read to in their first language (such as Tagalog) will have an easier time learning to read in their second language (such as English).

This means that by developing your child's literacy skills in their first language, you will be making it easier for them to learn to speak, read, and write in English in the future.



The aim of this brochure is to provide parents of English Language Learners with simple tips they can use to enhance their child's learning experience. The tips are intended to be quick and easy tools that parents can make part of everyday life.

Read every day. Read together. Make reading fun!



**ELK ISLAND
CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS**

Elk Island Catholic School Inclusive Learning Services

310 Broadview Rd, Sherwood Park,
AB T8H 1A4
(587) 745-2016

Reference

One World...One Centre. *Simple Steps to Your Child's Success Brochure Series.*



**ELK ISLAND
CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS**

Elk Island Catholic Schools

Seeing Christ in Everyone



Helping Your Child Succeed

Tips to Help English Language
Learners with **Reading**

Kindergarten to Grade 3

Tips to Help English Language Learners with Reading

Kindergarten to Grade 3



1. Cuddle up and read. Quiet times together can give you the chance to bond and read. The cuddling can be as important as the reading. When reading to your child, try to make it exciting by adding some drama to your voice or letting your child read every other page. As you read together, stop and explain any new words or ideas.

2. Be a reading model. When your kids see you reading, they will want to be just like you. It won't be long until they learn that reading is fun, interesting, and a 'grown-up' thing to do.

3. Check out your public library for new books. Your local library has excellent resources - books, DVDs, magazines, newspapers, and internet access. Best of all you can usually get a **free** library card. The library also puts on great programs like reading circles for little ones. Try to get to your library on a regular basis, as they get new resources in all the time,

4. Make a reading zone in your house. Make this a place your child will want to go to. Set up a comfy space with a blanket and pillows. You can also use magnetic letters on your fridge or a magnetic board so your child can start making words and short sentences.

5. Read as much as possible. A daily reading routine will give all the readers in your family a chance to improve their reading. Dads, moms, siblings, caregivers, and friends can all be a part of ensuring your child gets 20 minutes of being read to each day.

6. Books make great gifts. Ask family members and friends to give a book instead of a toy as a gift. Make sure to tell them about your child's reading level and interests. If you'd like to build up a home library, check out garage sales or the library's yearly book sale.

7. You can read everywhere you go. Take every opportunity to read with your child. Our world is full of words - on cereal boxes, street signs, stores, ads, etc. Point out new words and read them together.

8. Games can be great learning tools. Board games or card games can be a fun way to learn about words, letter sounds, and reading. They can help children realize how much fun reading can be. Check out second-hand stores for gently used games. You can even create your own games by cutting out pictures or writing words on cards, and then getting your child to match them.

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