

How to help *your child*

learn to read
and
love reading

Parent Guide



PEI
Literacy
Alliance



www.peireads.com

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Welcome parents

This guide was prepared for parents of children in grades 1 to 3, the time when most children learn to read.

The guide contains tips to help your child read and develop a love of reading. Choose the tips that are the most helpful and fun for you and your child.

This guide comes with a warm welcome from PEI's libraries. Your child's new library keycard is attached to the cover of the guide.

To activate the card, you must come to the library with the child. Bring the card and a piece of identification with your current address, such as a driver's licence or phone bill.

Children who already have a library card may change to the new card. Simply bring in the old and new cards.



Enjoy the guide and visit your library soon!

Helping your child read is one of the most important things you will ever do.



When you take your child to the library you open the door to a world of knowledge, discovery and imagination.

Parents are their child's first teachers



Home is the child's first school, the parent is the child's first teacher, and reading is the child's first subject.

As a parent, you play the most important role in helping your child learn.

You know your child better than anyone. You can help your child more than anyone else.

Helping your child read is very important because reading is the foundation for all learning.

Children who are good readers get off to a good start in school.

Children who are confident about reading have a positive attitude toward learning.

Children who read with their families develop a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.

At first, we learn to read. Then, we read to learn. Reading is the key to all learning.

Note: In this guide, the word "parents" is meant to include guardians, caregivers and other family members who can help children learn to read.

How do we learn to read?



Children get ready to read years before they start school.

Babies and toddlers like to be read to and to look at books. They learn about letters through pictures and songs. They begin to understand that their own thoughts can be put into print.

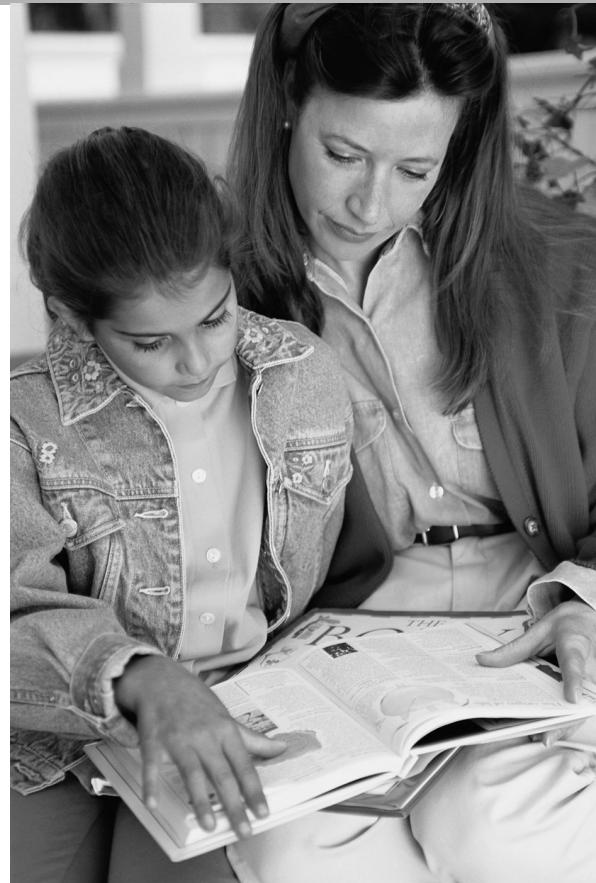
Pre-schoolers learn that printed words tell a story. They begin to see relationships between sounds and letters.

School-aged children learn ways to identify words. They can read different kinds of materials and predict events in a story. They can relate the meaning of books to what they know and do.

There are many types of readers and every child learns at his own pace. A child needs plenty of attention and support as he moves through these stages.

How can parents help children to be good readers?

1. Set expectations for your children – Let them know they are expected to achieve and help them develop reading skills.
2. Make books available – Make learning materials such as library books, newspapers, pencils and crayons available at home.
3. Read to your children – Read with them every day. Listen to them read aloud. Don't stop reading to them once they have learned to read.
4. Talk to your children about what you read – Talking about this helps your child to develop vocabulary and critical thinking skills.
5. Show that reading is important – Read in front of your children and encourage them to read too.



When parents get involved in their children's learning, they have a positive influence on their children's success throughout the school years.

How can parents improve their own reading skills?

Call the LEARN LINE for help with reading and writing.

- A volunteer tutor will help you with basic reading and writing. You and your tutor will agree where and when to meet.
- It's free and confidential.
- Call the LEARN LINE at 1-800-348-7323.



Ask about Adult Education programs at Holland College

- Adults of all ages go to Holland College for help with reading, writing and math, or to work toward their GED or high school credits.
- Classes are free. You can go full time or part time during the day or evening.
- There are Holland College centres across PEI.
- Call Holland College at 1-800-446-5265.
- Visit www.hollandc.pe.ca and click on "Full-time Programs" and then "Adult Education."

If you have questions, contact the PEI Literacy Alliance toll-free at 1-866-827-3620.

Every year, hundreds of adult Islanders improve their reading skills because they want to help their children learn.

Your local library

Libraries provide us with thousands of books, many more than we could ever provide on our own.



Prince Edward Island has an excellent public library system with 26 branches across the province.

Local libraries offer a variety of materials including books, magazines and newspapers – something for everyone from babies to grandparents.

Families with young children enjoy Storysacks which are now available at most libraries. Storysacks contain a book and props that help bring a story to life.

Ask your local librarian for the titles of books that will interest your child. Ask about library programs that you and your child can enjoy together. You can also visit the library website at www.library.pe.ca

Did you know . . .

- 55,000 Islanders have a library card.
- Libraries offer books, DVDs, large print and audiobooks.
- You can borrow up to 25 books at a time.
- You can search, renew or reserve items on the Internet.



Your community library

Provincial Library Service Branch Libraries – www.library.pe.ca

Bibliothèque publique d'Abram-Village 854-2491	Tue. 6-9; Wed. 1-4; Thurs. 1-4, 6-9; Sat. 1-4	Montague Public Library 838-2928	Tue. 12:30-5:30; Wed. 12:30-5:30, 6-8:30; Thurs. 12:30-5:30, 6-8:30; Fri. 9:30-11:30, 12:30-5:30; Sat. 12:30-5:30
Alberton Public Library 853-3049	Mon. 12:30-5; Wed. 10:30-12, 12:30-5; Fri. 12:30-5, 6:30-8:30	Morell Public Library 961-3389	Tue. 2-5; Wed. 5-8; Thurs. 2-5; Sat. 9-1
Borden-Carleton Public Library 437-6492	Tue. 3-5, 6-9; Thurs. 10-12; Fri. 6-9	Mt. Stewart Public Library 676-2050	Mon. 1-4; Tue. 6-9; Wed. 1-4; Fri. 6-9
Breadalbane Public Library 964-2520	Tue. 3-5; Thurs. 4-8; Sat. 1-5	Murray Harbour Public Library 962-3875	Mon. 6-9; Tue. 6-9; Wed. 11-12, 1-4:30; Fri. 1-4:30; Sat. 6-8
Bibliothèque Dr-J.-Edmond-Arsenault - Carrefour de l'Isle-Saint Jean - Charlottetown 368-6092	Tue. 9-1; Wed. 5-8; Thurs. 1-5; Fri. 2-5; Sat. 9-1	Murray River Leona Giddings Memorial Library 962-2667	Tue. 1:30-4:30; Wed. 6-9; Thurs. 6-9; Sat. 1:30-4:30
Confederation Centre Public Library 368-4642	Mon. 10-5; Tue. 10-9; Wed. 10-9; Thurs. 10-9; Fri. 10-5; Sat. 10-5; Sun. 1-5	O'Leary Public Library 859-8788	Tue. 1-5:30; Thurs. 10-12:30, 1-5:30; Fri. 1-5:30, 6-8
Government Services Library 368-4653	Mon.-Fri. 8:30-12:30, 1:30-5 (winter) Mon.-Fri. 8-12:30, 1-4 (summer)	Souris Public Library 687-2157	Tue. 1-5; Fri. 1-5, 6-8; Sat. 9:30-12:30
Cornwall Public Library 629-8415	Tue. 1-5:30; 6-8:30; Wed. 1-5:30, 6-8:30; Fri. 8:30-1; Sat. 8:30-1	St. Peter's Public Library 961-3415	Tue. 1-5, 6-8; Thurs. 1-5; Sat. 10-12
Crapaud Public Library 658-2297	Wed. 2-7; Thurs. 2-7; Sat. 9-12	Stratford Public Library 569-7441	Tue. 2-5; Wed. 5-8; Thurs. 10:30-1:30, 2-5; Fri. 2-5; Sat. 2-5
Georgetown Genevieve Solomon Memorial Library 652-2832	Tue. 4-8; Wed. 9:30-11:30; Thurs. 4-8	Bibliothèque J.-Henri-Blanchard - Centre Belle-Alliance, Summerside 432-2748	Tue. 9-12, 2-5; Wed. 5-8; Sat. 9-1
Hunter River Memorial Library 964-2800	Tue. 6-8:30; Wed. 5:30-8:30; Thurs. 11-1:30, 2-5; Fri. 2-5; Sat. 2-5	Summerside Rotary Library 436-7323	Tue. 10-9; Wed. 10-5:30; Thurs. 10-5:30; Fri. 10-5; Sat. 10-5; Sun. 1-5
Kensington Heritage Library 836-3721	Tue. 9:30-1:30; Thurs. 2:30-7; Sat. 9:30-1	Tignish Public Library 882-7363	Tue. 1:30-4:30; Thurs. 1:30-4:30; Fri. 1:30-4:30, 6-8:30; Sat. 1-4:30
Kinkora Public Library 887-2172	Tue. 2-5; Wed. 6-9; Fri. 10-2	Tyne Valley Public Library 831-2928	Tue. 2-5; Thurs. 2-4:30, 6:30-8:30; Sat. 9:30-12

Your school library

Get to know the library services offered at your school



School libraries provide students with easy access to books and reading materials.

In most schools there is an open book exchange at the beginning or end of every day.

There are teacher-librarians or library contacts at every school in PEI.

Teacher-librarians are specially trained to suggest learning materials that help with school work.

They can also select reading materials that are suited to your child's reading level, age, gender, interests and learning style.

Encourage your child to visit your school library on a regular basis.

How to choose a good book



- Ask your librarian to suggest a book or a list of popular books.
- Let your child select some of the books.
- If your child has a favourite book, she may enjoy other books by the same author.
- Choose different stories, such as folk tales or stories about different countries and cultures.



- Choose books that match your child's interests. Most children like books that are funny.
- Encourage your child to read different kinds of books, such as mysteries, biographies and non-fiction.
- Books that relate to events in your life, such as moving or a new baby, can help her cope with fears and feelings.



Recommended reading for grades 1 to 3

From the Provincial Library Service

Grade One

Author	Title
Ahlberg, Janet	Each Peach, Pear, Plum
Alborough, Jez	Where's My Teddy?
Allen, Pamela	Who Sank The Boat?
Asch, Frank	Milk And Cookies
Collicutt, Paul	This Truck
De Paola, Tomie	Knight And The Dragon
Eastman, P. D.	Are You My Mother?
Heller, Ruth	Chickens Aren't The Only Ones
Kasza, Keiko	The Rat And The Tiger
Kent, Jack	Round Robin
Little, Jean	Emma's Magic Winter
Martin, Bill Jr.	Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?
McPhail, David	Emma's Pet
Neitzel, Shirley	The Jacket I Wear In The Snow
Numeroff, Laura Joffe	If You Give A Mouse A Cookie
Sendak, Maurice	Where The Wild Things Are
Seuss, Dr.	The Cat In The Hat
Shannon, David	No, David!
Shaw, Nancy	Sheep In A Jeep
Stinson, Kathy	Red Is Best
Wallace, Karen	Big Machines
Wells, Rosemary	Max's Dragon Shirt
Wood, Audrey	Silly Sally
Series	
Abbott, Mary	Sam series
Berenstain, Stan	Berenstain Bears series
Edwards, Frank	Mortimer Mooner stories
Lobel, Arnold	Frog And Toad stories
Minarik, Else Holmelund	Little Bear stories
Parrish, Peggy	Amelia Bedelia stories
Pilkey, Dav	Dragon's stories
Parent and child to share	
Lunn, Janet	Amos's Sweater
Munsch, Robert	The Paper Bag Princess

Recommended reading for grades 1 to 3

From the Provincial Library Service

Grade Two

Author	Title
Allard, Harry	Miss Nelson Is Missing!
Barrett, Judi	Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs
Child, Lauren	What Planet Are You From Clarice Bean?
Coerr, Eleanor	Sadako
Gilman, Phoebe	Jillian Jiggs
Kellogg, Steven	A Rose For Pinkerton
Lum, Kate	What! Cried Granny: An Almost Bedtime Story
Rathman, Peggy	Officer Buckle and Gloria
Schwartz, Alvin	In A Dark, Dark Room, And Other Scary Stories
Silverstein, Shel	The Giving Tree
Steig, William	Pete's A Pizza
Yolen, Jane	Sleeping Ugly

Series	
Abbott, Tony	Secrets Of Droon series
Bourgeois, Paulette et al	Franklin series
Brown, Marc	Arthur series (Level three)
Howe, James	Pinky And Rex stories
McMullan, Kate	Dragon Slayers' Academy
Osborne, Mary Pope	Magic Tree House series
Park, Barbara	Junie B. Jones series
Peterson, John Lawrence	The Littles series
Preller, James	Jigsaw Jones mystery series
Roy, Ron	A To Z mysteries
Rylant, Cynthia	Henry And Mudge stories



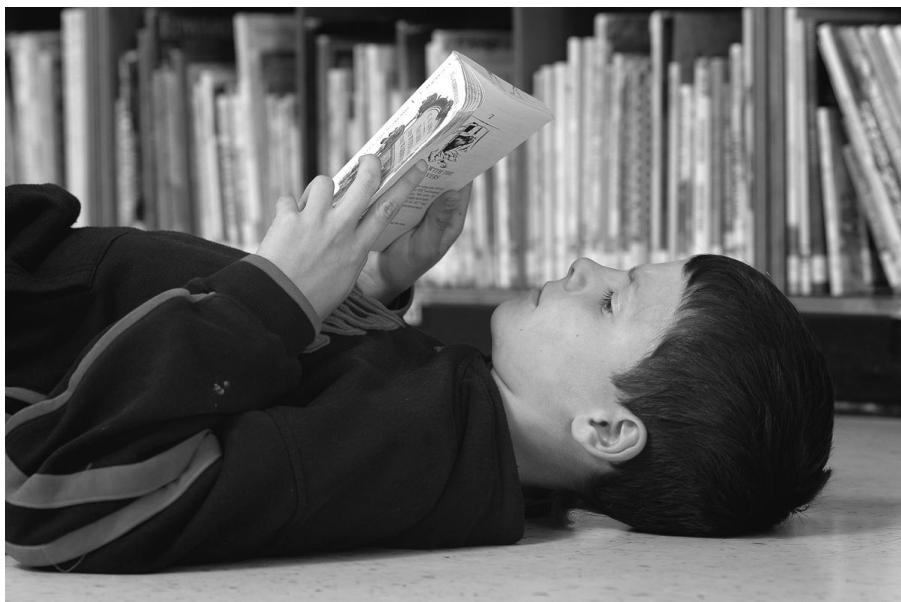
Recommended reading for grades 1 to 3

From the Provincial Library Service

Grade Three

Author	Title
Cleary, Beverly	Henry And The Paper Route
Danziger, Paula	Amber Brown Is Not A Crayon
MacLachlan, Patricia	Sarah, Plain And Tall
Sachar, Louis	Sideways Stories From Wayside School
White, E. B.	Charlotte's Web
Williams, Margery	The Velveteen Rabbit

Series	
Adler, David	Cam Jansen adventure series
Dadey, Debbie	Adventures Of The Bailey School Kids
Greenburg, Dan	Zack Files
Kline, Suzie	Horrible Harry series
Krulik, Nancy E.	Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo series
Pilkey, Dav	Captain Underpants series
Sachar, Louis	Marvin Redpost series
Scieszka, Jon	Time Warp Trio series
Stilton, Geronimo.	Geronimo Stilton series
Warner, Gertrude Chandler	Boxcar Children series
Wilder, Laura Ingalls	Little House series



Lectures recommandées

Première à la troisième année

Auteur	Titre
Anfousse, Ginette	La chicane
Bergeron, Alain M.	Savais-tu? Les piranhas
Bichonnier, Henriette	Le monstre poilu
Delaunois, Angèle	Le grand voyage de monsieur caca
Demers, Dominique	Le chien secret de Poucet
Dubé, Jasmine	Gratelle au bois dormant
Dubé, Pierrette	Nom de nom!
Duchesne, Christiane	Le jour des monstres
Durocher, Luc	L'école, c'est fou
Gaboury, Serge	Le retour de Glik et Gluk
Gagnon, Cécile	Plumeneige
Gernot, Béatrice	Je ne comprends pas ma grand-mère
Godbout, Jacques	Mes petites fesses
Gravel, François	David et la maison de la sorcière
Havard, Christian	Le renard, chasseur malicieux
Hébert, Marie-Francine	Décroche-moi la lune
Jolin, Dominique	Attends une minute!
Levert, Mireille	Une île dans la soupe
Luppens, Michel	Mais que font les fées avec toutes ces dents?
Major, Henriette	Les devinettes d'Henriette
Papineau, Lucie	Pas de taches pour une girafe
Poitras, Anique	Lancelot, le dragon
Renaud, Bernadette	Les gros bisous
Roman, Ghislaine	Le livre des peut-être
Saint-Aubin, Bruno	Papa est un castor bricoleur
Sarfati, Sonia	Drôle de peau pour un cabot
Simard, Danielle	Drôle d'animal
Simard, Rémy	La bottine magique de Pipo
Soulières, Robert	Une gardienne pour Étienne
Sylvestre, Daniel	À chat perché
Tibo, Gilles	Des livres pour Nicolas!
Tremblay, Carole	Bonne nuit, Gabou!
Vaillancourt, Danielle	Trop... amoureux!
Vaugelade, Anaïs	Une soupe au caillou
Weninger, Brigitte	Le Noël de Fenouil
Traditionnel, adapté par Marguerite Maillet	La petite merlèche.
Traditionnel, adapté par Michèle Marineau	Cendrillon.



Kids' picks – grades 1 to 3

Provided by the Provincial Library Service through a survey of Island youth, 2005

Individual Titles

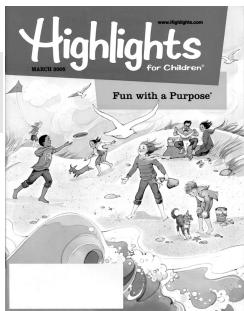
Author	Title
Allard, Harry	Miss Nelson Has A Field Day
Burningham, John	Mr. Gumpy's Motor Car
Dahl, Roald	Witches
Day, Alexandra	Carl's Birthday
Mayer, Mercer	There's an Alligator Under My Bed

Authors and Series

Author	Title
Berenstain, Stan	Berenstain Bear books
Bridwell, Norman	Clifford books
Brown, Marc	Arthur chapter books
Dadey, Debbie	Adventures of the Bailey School Kids
Disney	Books based on the movies
Gutman, Dan	Various titles
London, Jonathan	Froggy books
Munsch, Robert	Various titles
Osborne, Mary Pope	Magic Tree House series
Parish, Peggy	Amelia Bedelia series
Parish, Herman	Amelia Bedelia (more recent titles)
Park, Barbara	Junie B. Jones series
Snicket, Lemony	Series of Unfortunate Events
Various authors	Bob the Builder books
Various authors	Madagascar the Movie
Various authors	Scooby-Doo books
Various authors	Spiderman books
Various authors	SpongeBob SquarePants
Wick, Walter	I Spy series

Magazines

Highlights



Tips for parents

Tip #1

Talk to your child

Children who are spoken to often will have good language skills.

When you talk to your child, you teach him the sounds of language, making it easier for him to learn how to read. Here are some things you can do to help your child build an appreciation for words and language:

- Tell family stories about yourself and your family members.
- Talk to your child about things you are doing and thinking.
- Ask your child questions.
- Talk with your child about his experiences.



Tip #2

Make reading fun

Reading aloud can be fun for the whole family.

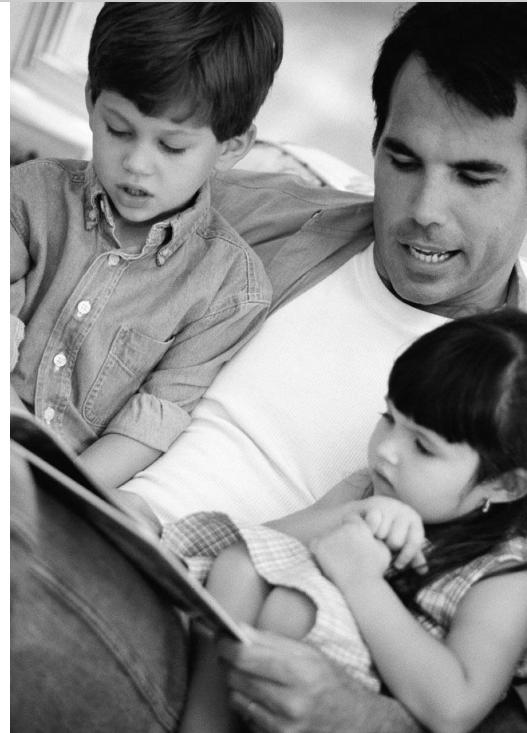
- Read your child's favourite stories as often as she wants to hear them. Let her fill in the words for you.
- Read all kinds of material – stories, poems, information books, magazines, newspapers and comics.
- Keep reading to your child even after she has learned to read.
- Choose some stories that are more difficult for your child. She will learn new words and you can continue to share the joy of reading together.

Tip #3

Read every day

Children love routine. Reading is something you and your child can look forward to every day.

- Read with your child for at least 15 minutes a day. Brothers and sisters, grandparents and caregivers can join in too.
- Choose a comfortable place to read where you can be close to your child.
- Read and say nursery rhymes and sing songs together.



Tip #4

Set an example

When your child sees you reading for pleasure or information, he will understand that reading is a worthwhile activity.

You are your child's most important role model. Here are some daily reading activities to share with your child:

- Read recipes, food labels, schedules, maps, instructions and brochures.
- Read traffic signs and signs in stores and restaurants.
- Look up information in cookbooks, phone books, atlases and dictionaries.
- Read greeting cards, letters, and email messages from relatives and friends.
- Talk to your child about how you read at work or just for fun.

Tip #5

Talk about books

Talking about books you read is just as important as reading them.

Talking about a book helps your child understand it and connect it to his own experiences. It also helps enrich your child's vocabulary.

- Talk about your favourite books from childhood, and offer to read them.
- Look at the cover and the title of a book and ask your child what he thinks might happen in the story.
- Think out loud about the story as you read and encourage him to do the same. Ask, "Does this make sense? Why or why not?" Ask more questions a few days later when he has had more time to think about the story.

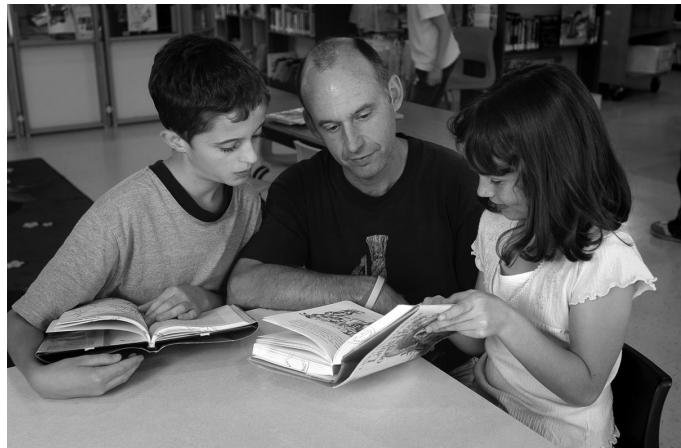
Tip #6

Listen to your child read aloud

Give your child a chance to practice and improve her reading skills.

Listen to your child read. Be enthusiastic and praise her often. Be specific with your praise so she knows what she is doing well.

- Show her that you are enjoying the story by indicating interest and asking questions.
- Give her time to figure out tricky words and show her how she can learn from mistakes.
- Make sure that she chooses books that aren't too difficult. Don't worry if they are a little easier than the ones she reads at school.
- Encourage her to read on her own.



Tip #7

Create your own library at home

You can make your own family library. It doesn't have to be a whole room. It can be as simple as two chairs and a bookshelf.

- Some books are just right for borrowing from the library. Others will find a special place in your child's heart. These are the books for your child's bookshelf.
- Involve your child in setting up your special place to read.
- Let him decide the titles to go on the shelf. Don't be surprised when he asks for a book he has read many times. To him, a favourite book is like a best friend he can return to at any time.
- Surround your children with books and they will build lifelong friendships with books.



Tip #8

Know what boys and girls like to read

Boys and girls are different. How they learn and what they like to read are different.

- Generally, girls enjoy reading more, and they read more. They often enjoy novels and short stories.
- Boys sometimes lose interest in books in the elementary grades. They may like to read comics, magazines and information about "real" things. They also like action and adventure stories.
- All types of reading materials can be used to build good reading skills. Find out what your child likes so you can keep him interested in reading.
- There are many types of readers and one type should not be valued more than another.

Tip #9

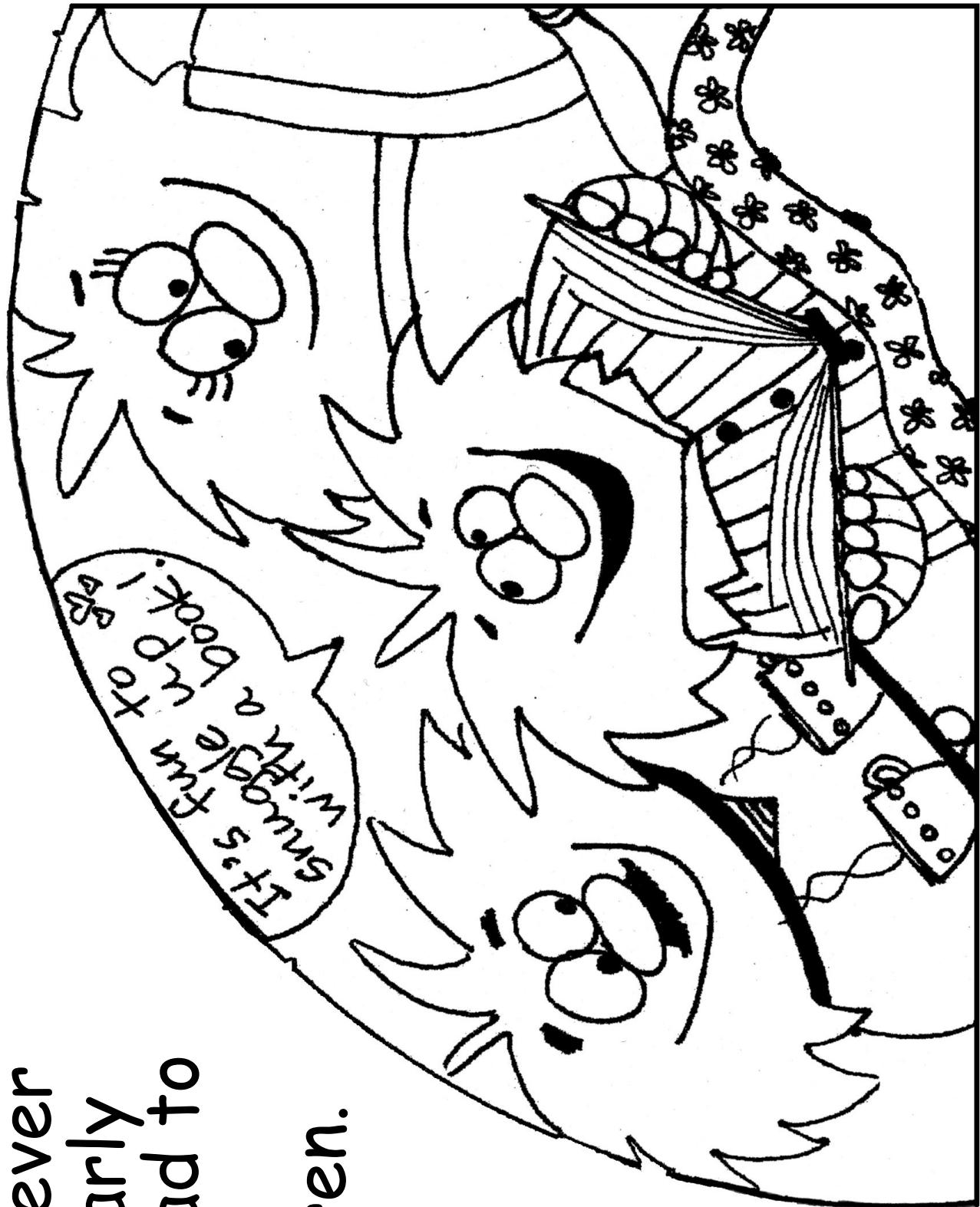
Questions to ask your child's teacher

When children see their parents and teachers working together, the children feel more secure and confident about school.

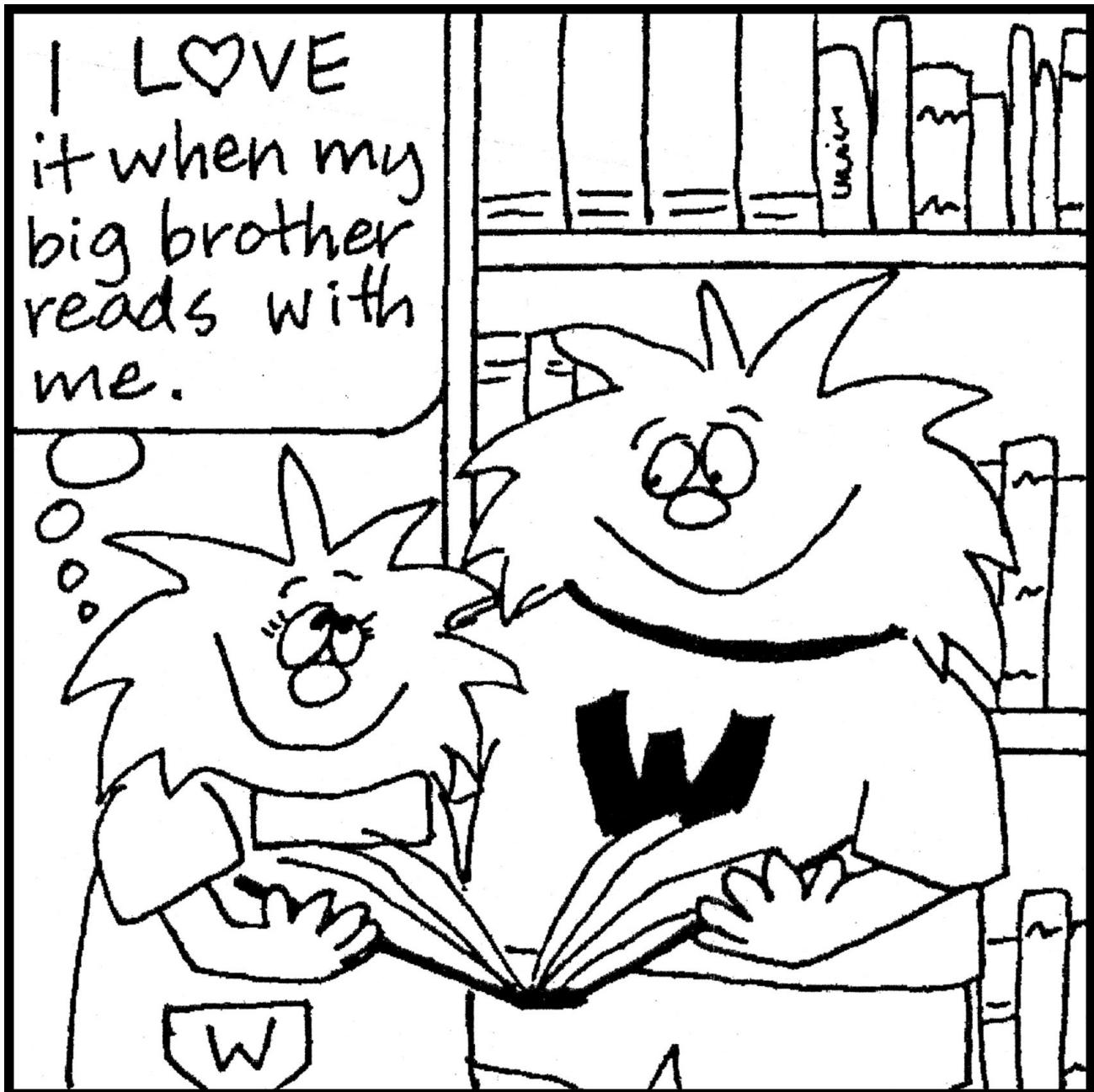
- What reading level has my child reached?
- How can I set reading goals for my child?
- How can I support my child to reach these goals?
- What books could my child read easily and which ones would my child find more difficult?
- What books and authors might my child enjoy?
- What level of interest does my child have in reading?
- What reading strategies could I help my child use?
- What books or guides could help me to help my child learn to read and love reading?



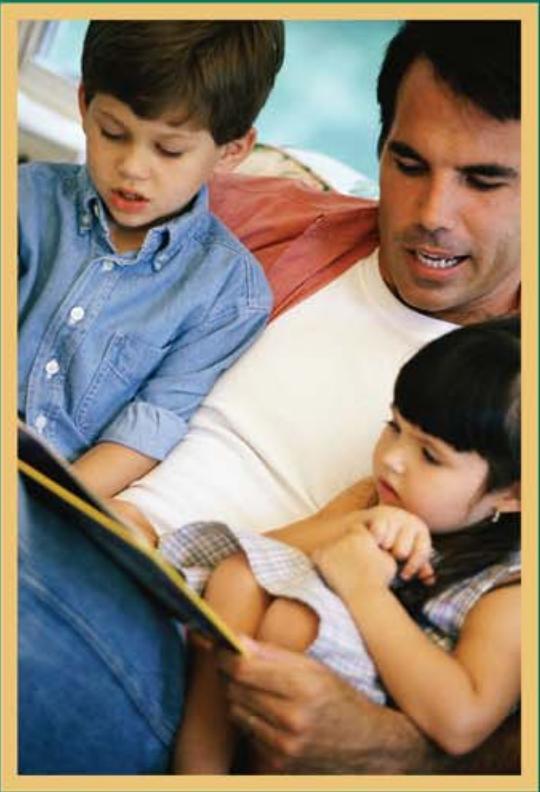
**It's never
too early
to read to
your
children.**



Everyone can help raise a reader.



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This guide was prepared by:
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Department of Education
Home and School Federation of PEI
La Fédération des parents de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard
PEI Literacy Alliance
Provincial Library Service

*Funding was generously provided through the Partnerships for Children Fund of the
Prince Edward Island Healthy Child Development Strategy*

www.peireads.com