

TOP 10 QUICK AND EASY WAYS TO PARTNER FOR  
READING SUCCESS

INTERMEDIATE GRADES



### **Phone Numbers for Reference**

*The Peck Place School*

500 Peck Lane, Orange, CT 06477

Telephone No.: (203) 891-8034

*Orange Elementary School System District Office*

(203) 891-8020

*The Case Memorial Library*

(203) 891-2170

**This guide was created for The Peck Place Community by:**

Ms. Anne Fleming, Reading, Reading Consultant  
Mrs. Patricia Moffett, Teacher, Grade One  
Mrs. Karen Peterson, Teacher, Grade One  
Mrs. Kelley Stevens, Teacher, Grade Two  
Ms. Linda Sobolewski, Teacher, Grade Three  
Mrs. Denise Tickell, Teacher, Grade Four  
Mrs. Rachael Richard, Grade Six  
Mrs. Elaine Ballerini, Teacher, Grade Six  
Mrs. Stephanie Dragan, Technical Consultant

**This project was funded and provided by The Peck Place PTA**

### **SELECTING A BOOK FOR YOUR CHILD TO READ**

Intermediate grades:

- Match interested, experiences and reading levels.
- Check level of difficulty (e.g. Five errors on a page means it is too difficulty).
- Visit bookstores and libraries with your child. Look for book signing and author readings.
- Consider what other children are reading
- Discover a series or author that your child connects to and enjoys.

### **MAKING THE TIME**

Intermediate grades:

- Build reading into your daily lives
- Look for every opportunity to share with your child.
- Celebrate a special event with a book.
- Make reading a whole-family activity.

### **MAKING THE WRITING CONNECTION**

Intermediate grades:

- Encourage letter writing, including thank you notes, to grandparents and other relatives, friends and pen pals.
- Provide journals, notebooks, and diaries.
- Model everyday writing such as list keeping, invitations, and schedules.
- Leave little notes in unexpected places (e.g., in a lunchbox, under a pillow, in a favorite book).
- Email favorite authors, actors, musicians and athletes at their websites.

### **DEVELOPING VOCABULARY**

Intermediate grades:

- Play word games; e.g. Scrabble, Boggle, Word Bingo, Mad Libs.
- Solve Crossword Puzzles
- Substitute higher level words for familiar words in everyday conversation; e.g., garments/clothing.
- Explore word origins, expressions and idioms.
- Make up words games, riddles, and jokes using synonyms, antonyms, puns, rhymes, and categories.
- Establish a continuous personal vocabulary list with definitions from all reading materials.

### **BUILDING COMPREHENSION**

Intermediate grades:

- Discuss important story elements such as character setting, problem, and solution.
- Promote the use of summaries and end of chapter notes (e.g., use Post-It notes)
- Make predictions frequently while reading
- Encourage linking the text to personal experiences, other books read, and to the world.
- Ask questions such as “Why did the characters act as they did”, “What do you think happened after the story ended?”, and “What did the character learn and did he/she change?”.

### **LINKING LITERACY ONLINE**

Intermediate grades:

- Make sure of websites that support literacy:  
-Timeforkids.com  
-Scholastic.com  
-NationalGeographic.com  
-Rif.org
- Visit specific authors' websites; e.g. Avi, Patricia Rielly Giff, Brian Jacques, and Jerry Spinelli
- Do a Google search on a topic that interests your child.

### **FOSTERING FLUENCY**

Intermediate grades:

- Model reading with expression and use exciting dramatic voices for each character
- Read silently in preparation for oral reading to ensure understanding of vocabulary
- Be aware of punctuation and its relationship to meaning
- Focus on the use of dialogue
- Be creative-also read comic strips, plays and poetry
- Listen and enjoy books on tape/CD or even make your own.

### **CHOOSING A BOOK TO READ WITH YOUR CHILD**

Intermediate grades:

- Investigate award winning books such as Caldecott, Newberry, and Nutmeg books.
- Share your favorite childhood books
- Explore shared interests
- Follow up on topics and themes being studied in school in science and social studies
- Read the classics.

## **SETTING THE STAGE**

Intermediate grades:

- Model your love of books and reading.
- Have conversations. Discuss what you and your child are reading.
- Create a comfortable, quiet place for your child to enjoy reading without distractions.
- Make books, newspapers, magazines and writing materials accessible throughout your home.
- Encourage your child to develop a personal library.
- Provide a special area for your child's library.

## **BROADENING YOUR CHILD'S HORIZON**

Intermediate grades:

- Take your child to the library
- Plan together and visit historical sites, museums, zoos and the theatre.
- Encourage hobbies, collections, scrapbooks, and book discussions.
- Look for child friendly recipes and enjoy cooking together.
- Promote participation in community activities such as scouting, drama programs, and after school clubs (e.g., chess, science, music).