

### Reading Suggestions:

1. Set a good example by letting your child see you read.
2. Limit television viewing.
3. Set aside a time for recreational reading.
4. Provide situations where young people can read technical material. Examples: labels, advertising, maps, schedules, directions, etc.
5. Encourage students to read to younger children or to parents.
6. Keep newspapers, catalogs, and magazines on hand and use them to practice information finding skills.
7. Give magazine subscriptions for gifts.
8. Buy books for special occasions.
9. View a movie after reading the book on which it was based.
10. Provide books containing directions for things to do or make.
11. Set aside a place and time for studying.
12. Provide your child with a reliable home dictionary and encyclopedia. Encourage him/her to look up subjects that puzzle or interest him/her.
13. Tempt your child with books on subjects sure to interest him/her if they are not enthusiastic about reading. Be sure they are not too difficult.
14. Discuss current events and the world affairs with your child.
15. Watch the television news programs with your child and encourage him/her to do further research on the subject.
16. Take your child to a concert, museum, planetarium or factory. These experiences help make reading meaningful.

### Writing Suggestions:

1. Build a climate of words at home. Go places with your child and then share what has been seen, heard, smelled, tasted and touched.
2. Let children see you write often. Write notes to friends, letters to business firms and stories to share with your child.
3. Be helpful as you can in helping children write. Talk through their ideas with them to help them discover what they want to say. Give help with spelling, punctuation and usage when they ask for it.
4. Provide a quiet, suitable place for children to write.
5. Give and encourage others to give the child gifts associated with writing. The following are suggestions: a dictionary, a thesaurus, pens, pencils, a desk lamp, stationery, envelopes and erasers.
6. Encourage frequent writing such as letters to friends and relatives.
7. Praise your child's efforts at writing. Emphasize the child's successes.

8. Share letters from friends and relatives.
9. Encourage your child to write away for information, free samples and travel brochures.
10. Be alert to occasions when your child can be involved in writing. For example, helping with grocery list, adding notes at the end of parents' letters, sending birthday and holiday cards, writing down telephone messages, writing notes to friends, helping plan trips by writing for information, drafting notes to school for parental signature, writing notes to letter carriers and other service persons, and preparing invitations to family get-togethers.

#### Mathematics Suggestions:

1. Check to see that homework assignments are complete.
2. Provide a quiet time and place to work on math problems.
3. Encourage completion of math and all other homework before play.
4. See that your child has the necessary materials.
5. Review multiplication facts with your child.
6. Encourage your child to learn (not memorize) all tables, signs, symbols and formulas assigned by the teacher.
7. Always show interest in and explain the importance of math skills in everyday life situations.
8. Help your child with his/her math homework when help is needed. However, do not do the homework assignment for your child.
9. Take your child to the grocery store with you and let him/her price items and add these prices as you go through the store.
10. Let your child help you measure items around the home as you do things for yourself. Suggested items would be to let your child measure wood before you cut it and to measure cloth before cutting it as you make clothing items.
11. While traveling, let your child use a map to determine the distance between two or more given places.
12. Ask your child to explain how to solve a math problem that he/she has learned at school recently. This can help to check for understanding and to encourage listening skills at school.

\* These suggestions were compiled from a list of suggestions submitted by teachers and from the National Council of Teachers of English.