

Summer Bridge Newsletter:

Bridging the Gap Between 4th and 5th^d Grade

Follow a Recipe

Cooking with your child helps build skills in reading directions and measurement.

What You Will Need:

A children's cookbook or a cookbook with simple recipes

This activity provides real-life practice in **reading directions, sequencing and measurement skills**. It also helps children develop life skills in the areas of healthy food, preparing food and applying skills learned in school to life at home.

Here's How To Do It:

Have your child choose a recipe, read through it, and tell you what items he needs to make it. You may want to choose a recipe for him that you know is manageable. Have him write up a shopping list of what he needs for the recipe. Then go shopping with him for the items needed. Guide him through the sequence of steps of how to make the recipe. Ask him questions such as "What should you do first?" "What should you do second?"

READ READ READ!

Listen to child read. As she is reading to you, you should pause frequently to:

- Clarify anything confusing
- Make connections (to himself, other texts or the world)
- Ask questions about characters, author or plot
- Predict what might happen next
- Comment on what you are reading

Provide real life experiences

Visit a supermarket: estimate the weight of things and then confirm by weighing or reading labels, Have children create a running total in their head of the total cost by rounding prices.

When traveling: Play the alphabet game, reading signs looking for words that begin with each letter of the alphabet. *Have kids figure the tip at restaurants. *Figure mileage-- Estimate how much gas the car is going to take. *Estimate the cost of lunch and then compare real figures. *Have them budget for trips. *Let kids use maps to find directions and to figure distance and time needed for travel.

Tips to encourage writing at home

Support your soon to be fifth-grade writer with these strategies:

Provide a quiet, well-lit place for your child to write.

Stock the "writing center" with supplies--paper, pencils and crayons, family photos and magazines to use as story starters.

Read, read, read!

The best activity to improve writing is reading. If your child reads good books, he will be a better writer. Reading exposes students to great vocabulary.

Provide authentic writing opportunities.

Have your child write his own thank-you notes, party invitations and letters to family. Let your child make the grocery list. Discuss articles in the newspaper, or in written advertisements.

Discuss the purpose of the writing and the target audience.

Ask questions.

Always ask your child questions when he writes, such as: "How did that happen?" "How did that make you feel?" "Can you tell me more about that...?" "What are some other words you could use to describe...?" Schedule a day of the week that you will turn off the television and share your writing—both of yours☺

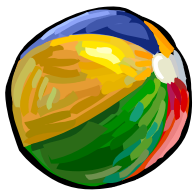
Share writing with others, place it on the refrigerator or encourage her to write for kids' magazines.

Allow kids the opportunity to measure anything!!! (capacity, length, volume, area, perimeter)

Memorize all multiplication facts! Use flash cards!

Websites

- **Tyndall Elementary**
www.bayschools.com/schools/tes See our web page for additional sites that are fun and educational!
- www.Edheads.com
- www.funbrain.com
- Jim Trelease's Website www.trelease-on-reading.com



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Vocabulary

- Discuss vocabulary and encourage use of increasingly sophisticated words.
- Model dictionary use (by looking up words you do not know),
- Discuss meanings of **prefixes, suffixes and root words**, so that your child begins to understand units of meaning within words, (such as un-controll-able).
- **Start a vocabulary notebook.**
- Teach your child new words each week and encourage her to use them. Make it into a game and give points for using the new words
- **See Tyndall's website for vocabulary lists and websites.**

Suggested Reading List

Fiction

Alexander, Lloyd *The Book of Three*
Bauer, Marion Dane. *The Blue Ghost*.
Clements, Andrew *No Talking*
Clements, Andrew *The Landry News*
Clements, Andrew *The School Story*
Colfer, Eoin *Artemis Fowl series*
Curtis Christopher *Bud, Not Buddy*
de Augeli, Marguerite *A Door in the Wall*
DeFelice, Cynthia *The Missing Manatee*.
DiSalvo, Dyanne *The Sloppy Copy Slippup*
DiTerlizzi, Tony *The Spiderwick Chronicles*
Dowell, Frances O'Roark *Phineas L. MacGuire*.
Funke, Cornelia *Any title*
Gantos, Jack *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*
Gorman, Carol and Ron J. Findley *Stumptown Kid*.
Graff, Lisa *The Thing about Georgie*
Gutman, Dan *The Homework Machine*
Haddix, Margaret Peterson *Dexter the Tough*
Jacques, Brian *Redwall*
Kehret, Peg *The Ghost's Grave*
Konigsburg, E.L. *View from Saturday*
Lord, Cynthia *Rules*
Lowry, Lois *The Giver*
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds *Roxie and the Hooligans*
Paolini, Christopher *Eragon*
Pennypacker, Sara *Clementine*
Repka, Janice *The Stupendous Dodgeball Fiasco*

Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter series*
Scieska, Jon *Time Warp Trio*
Tolan, Stephanie S. *Listen!*
Winkler, Henry *Hank Zipper Series*
Yep, Lawrence *Later Gator*

Sports Fiction

Bledsoe, Lucy Jane *Hoop Girlz*
Gutman, Dan *Shoeless Joe and Me*
Gutman, Dan *Jackie Robinson and Me*

Popular Poets

Prelutsky, Jack Shel Silverstein, Myra Cohn
Livingston, Hoberman, Mary Ann, Judith Viorst

NonFiction

Armstrong Lance *Every Second Counts*
Bridges, Ruby *Through My Eyes*
Byrd, Robert *Leonardo*
Dahl, Roald *Going Solo*

Mystery

Balliett, Blue *Chasing Vermeer*
Bauer, Marion A *Taste of Smoke*
Cohen, Daniel *Ghostly Warnings*
Dixon, Franklin *Hardy Boys series*
Fleischman, Sid *The 13th Floor: A Ghost Story*
Gaiman, Neil *Coraline*
Hiassen, Carl *Hoot*
Raskin, Ellen *The Westing Game*
Roberts, Willo *The View from the Cherry Tree*
Salway, Lance *A Nasty Piece of Work and Other Ghost Stories*
Schnur, Steven *The Shadow Children*
Snyder, Zilpha *The Trespassers*

Historical Fiction

Avi *The Fighting Ground*
Choi, Sook Nyul *Year of Impossible Goodbyes*
Cohen, Barbara *Thank you, Jackie Robinson*
Collier, James *War Comes to Willy Freeman*
Curtis, Christopher *The Watson's Go to Birmingham—1963*
Fleischman, Sid *Jim Ugly*
Haahr, Berit *The Minstrel's Tale*
Hesse, Karen *Letters from Rifka*
Lord, Bette Bao *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*
Yolen, Jane *The Devil's Arithmetic*

Realistic Fiction

Giff, Patricia Reilly *Pictures of Hollis Woods*
Lowry, Lois *Number the Stars*
Love Deborah Wiles, *Ruby Lavender*
Martin, Ann A *Corner of the Universe*
Peck, Richard *A Long Way from Chicago*