THE READING ENGAGEMENT

SCHOOL-AGE READING GUIDE

Growing confident, curious readers ages 6–12: fluency, comprehension, book choice and reading for fun.

Chapter Chasers · Ages 6–8

- Practice fluency with repeated reading: read the same short passage three times and notice the growth.
- Sound out tricky words, then reread the whole sentence so meaning stays intact.
- Retell with First–Next–Then–Last. Draw a quick story map.
- Great formats: early chapter books, graphic novels, joke books, nonfiction about favorite topics.

Story Makers Studio · Ages 9–12

- Talk about theme, character motivation and author's choices, not just plot.
- Keep a reader's notebook with favorite quotes, questions and predictions.
- Try a series, a verse novel, a biography and a mystery — widen the reading menu.
- Write back: alternate endings, letters to characters, reviews and original stories.

Comprehension Questions That Work

- Before: What do you predict? What do you already know about this topic?
- During: What just changed? What's confusing? What picture is in your head?
- After: What's the big idea? How is this like your life or another book?

Five-Finger Book Check

Read one page and hold up a finger for each unknown word. 0–1: easy read. 2–3: just right. 4–5: great for reading together aloud.

Motivation Boosters

- Let them choose — graphic novels and audiobooks count as reading.
- Start a family or friend book club with snacks and a discussion question.
- Set reading goals by minutes or books, and celebrate with a library trip.

Reading Log

Title / pages or minutes / rating (1–5 stars):

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