

Questions

Parents Can Ask...

About Reading Improvement



When you are the parent of a child who struggles with reading, you need specific information to support your child's reading progress. Whether attending a parent/teacher conference, participating in writing the IEP (Individualized Education Program), or working with your child at home, use the questions that relate to your child to gather the information you need. Use the boxes provided to record the answers from your child's teacher(s) or education specialist.

Remember: Always ask for an explanation of anything that you do not understand.

If you have questions about your child's overall reading progress, ask . . .

1. What is my child's grade level in reading? What does that mean he can do?

2. In what areas does he need to improve?

3. Is there a difference between how well my child reads individual words and how well he understands what he reads? If so, what can we do to improve the weaker areas?

4. What strategies are you using to improve/build my child's vocabulary? How will you measure my child's progress?

5. What specific things are you doing in the classroom to help my child improve in reading? (such as: provide support by a reading specialist, provide different materials, provide instruction in small groups that targets my child's particular weaknesses or provide extra time to practice reading during the day)

6. What can I do at home to help my child read better? (For example: Can you suggest specific activities that we can do, materials that I may borrow, available website supports or workshops that I can attend?)

7. How will I be notified about my child's reading improvement? What will the report look like? Would you be willing to update me every 2-3 weeks?

If you have questions about Sounds, Word Recognition and Fluency, ask . . .

1. Has my child ever been tested/assessed for sound and letter/sound awareness? If so, when and what did the results show?

2. Have you tested/assessed my child's fluency? If so, when and what did the results show?

3. How and how often do you measure/assess my child's fluency progress?

4. What are you doing in the classroom to help my child decrease her need to pause at words and increase her ability to read smoothly?

5. What strategies are you teaching my child to help her work through difficult sounds or words when reading?



6. What are some specific rhyming activities, word games, poems, books, videos, audio materials, etc. that I can use at home to help my child with sounds, word recognition and/or reading aloud?

7. For practicing reading at home, would you help me select material(s) that my child can read comfortably (in other words, where **95%** of the words are ones that she knows)?

If you have concerns about your child's Reading Comprehension, ask . . .

1. Is my child having trouble understanding what she reads? If so what do you do to help her understand that material?

2. Have you tested/assessed my child's reading comprehension? If so, when and what did the results show?

3. How and how often do you measure my child's comprehension progress?

4. Would you show me what you are doing?

5. Can you tell me about some other activities that I can do at home to help her understand what she reads?

6. What resources can you give me to use at home to help my child?

7. What kinds of activities can we do before and after my child reads to help her understand the information?

If you have questions about Reading Support(s) for your child in other subject areas, ask. . .

1. What specific things are my child's teachers doing to support and help him with his reading, writing and/or spelling needs?

If your child has an IEP (Individualized Education Program) or a 504 plan, ask. . .

1. What specific accommodations does my child need in each academic and special area class to support his reading, writing and spelling needs?

Remember:

If your child is unable to read on grade level, it is essential to think about and discuss ways to work around his reading difficulties so that he can access general curriculum content. You need to make sure that the methods of addressing all literacy needs in every subject area are specifically described in your child's IEP.

For students needing special education in reading, the IEP **MUST** include specific, measurable reading goals, as well as all specific reading supports needed in every other subject area.

*All information and support provided at no cost to families!
For more information, please contact:*



For more information, please contact:
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phone: 704-892-1321 | 1-800-962-6817 (parent info line)

