

Reading with Your Student

Selecting a Book (Guiding your student to the appropriate level)

1. Let the child choose a book.
2. Have the student read a page or two.
3. Out of the child's view, put a finger up for each word he or she struggles to read.
4. If you need your thumb before the end of the passage, the book is too hard. Guide your student toward a more appropriate choice,

Paired Reading

1. Duet Reading:

Students and tutors start by reading together. The student must say each word correctly. If the student makes an error, the tutor reads the word correctly, the student repeats the word and the pair continues reading together.

2. Solo Reading:

The second phase occurs when the student reads solo until a mistake occurs. The tutor corrects the error or provides the difficult word after waiting four seconds for the student to recognize the word. The student repeats the word and the pair returns to duet reading until the student wants to read solo again.

Decoding Words: (Using phonics & clues)

When your student comes to a word that he or she doesn't know, you could also have them try the following:

1. Think about what's happening in the story.
2. Check the pictures for clues.
3. Think about the meaning, "What word would make sense?"
4. Break the word into chunks by taking off the beginning or ending.
5. Identify the sounds in the word and try blending them together.
6. Read to the end of the sentence, omitting the word.

Reading Comprehension (a key skill for CSAP)

Meaning and comprehension are the goals of reading. Don't focus on missed words, but on the overall understanding. Try some of these comprehension questions:

1. From looking at the cover and flipping through the pages, what do you think this book will be about?
2. What do you think will happen next?
3. Have you read any other books that remind you of this one?
4. Can you think of a different ending for this story?
5. Would you recommend this book to someone?
6. Recall the sequence of events and the characters.
7. Do you know what that word means? (Vocabulary focus is important.)