

Reading Web Sites
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The Reading Genie

<http://www.auburn.edu/~murraba/> Dr. Bruce Murray--the Reading Genie--an associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Auburn University states "there's nothing magic about learning to read when we base our instruction on the science of reading education." We can plan lessons using this public knowledge base to ease children into reading and spelling with the alphabetic code. Check out the site for reading information.

Websites for teachers to use to enhance the five areas of reading instruction



Phonics Awareness/Phonics

Words are very important in the foundations of reading and writing. Phonics is an important part of any reading program, but it is NOT the only part. There are four cueing systems which readers use: Phonics (sound-symbol relationship), Semantics (meaning and context), Syntax (structure of language), and background knowledge. Phonics is not a method of teaching reading; it is an important strategy for decoding words (Bear, Invernizzi, Templeton, & Johnston, 2000).

Interactive skill-based Curriculum Activities and Games for Students

http://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/sbeck/interactive_curriculum_sites.htm#K-1%20Alphabet%20and%20Reading%20%20Activities This site includes many games which require Shockwave for the following subjects language arts, K-1 phonics and reading, math, science, social studies.

Practice Quiz on Phonics

<http://english.glendale.cc.ca.us/phonics.html> Presents a quiz for teachers on the various aspects of phonics, including common generalizations or rules. This is an excellent review for teachers who will be teaching phonics.

Interactive phonics games for student

http://www.iknowthat.com/com/L3?Area=L2_LanguageArts This site encourages meta-learning skills, which enables the students to learn how to learn in a community type setting. It encourages multiple modalities in which to learn about topics and encourage collaboration. The learning is self paced. For Phonics games choose the following: Word Search, Word Match, and Word Builder.

Cliffords interactive Phonics Games

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/clifford1/> This learning activity is part of the Clifford the Big Red Dog series. Clifford's Big Idea for children is Be Kind. Students read or listen to stories and phonics games.

Starfall

<http://www.starfall.com/n/level-a/index/play.htm?f> The Starfall reading program is designed specifically for the emergent reader. It makes use of interactive books and rhyming word family games that teach phonemic awareness, comprehension, vocabulary building and spelling skills. You are welcome to use the on-line Starfall program in your school for free! You may also order PRINTED materials that coordinate with the website.

Free Phonics Worksheets

<http://www.schoolexpress.com> This site provides phonics worksheets that focus on vowels, consonants, blends, and other aspects of reading.

Fluency

Fluency means reading faster, smoother, more expressively, or more quietly with the goal of reading silently. Fluent reading approaches the speed of speech. Beginning readers usually do not read fluently; reading is often a word-by-word struggle.

Alfy Interactive Reading Stories

<http://www.alfy.com/storyville/index1.asp?FlashDetect=True> At this site ALFY is the main character and the book is read to the children in excellent expression and style, so the children can hear the fluency of the reader. It also asks them to take an active role in the story. The stories can be played and then read by the child with the sound turned down.

PBS Between the Lion

<http://pbskids.org/lions/games/> This site provides many games for the children to play on to work toward word fluency. The game is not in a story format, but it does work on how fluently the child can read the words in isolation.

PBS Arthur's Scrambled Stories

http://pbskids.org/arthur/games/stories_cramble/index.html The child or the computer can read the text and place the parts in correct order. When the activity is complete the computer reads the story with fluency.

TampaReads Online Reading Books

<http://www.tampareads.com/books-ol/index-ol.htm> TampaReads has created books which focus on reading words in context with picture clues, vowel color coding, and separated words for understanding. Check out the site. First grade reading level.

BookPops: Webenhanced Reading Stories- Virtual Literature by Stephen Cosgrove

<http://www.bookpop.com>

Vocabulary

Children come across many new vocabulary words in their reading, knowing the meanings are very important to the comprehension of the text. Vocabulary words are labels for concepts (Lew & Kinzer, 1999). Teachers are encouraged to introduce concepts first through providing direct instruction with words they feel the students need to know. Another important aspect of vocabulary instruction is teaching children to use context to figure out new words. (Rasinski & Padak, 2000)

KidsBibs- Learning Tips #24 Strengthen Vocabulary Through Reading and Exploring with a Vocabulary Scavenger Hunt

<http://www.kidbibs.com/learningtips/lt24.htm> LearningTips is a series of articles written by teachers and professors about helping children from birth to age 12 become good readers, writers, and students.

Word Central

<http://www.wordcentral.com/> Merriam-Webster's Word Central offers kids a student dictionary, Daily Buzzword, and



interactive word games. It offers interactive word **games** in addition to a student dictionary and Daily Buzzword feature.

Vocabulary Web Games

http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games_vocab.htm Vocabulary Web games is a free on line resource with many different vocabulary quiz activities covering over 2000 words including SAT/GRE, computer, and medical terminology.

Vocabulary University

<http://www.vocabulary.com> This site contains on-line puzzles for grades 5 and older. It promotes vocabulary development with puzzles and exercises. You can even print out a diploma from Vocabulary University.

Education Place: Fake Out

<http://www.eduplace.com/fakeout/> At this site the students are able to choose words and guess their definitions. They then check to see if they are correct.

Grammar

Grammar is very important in any language. It is based on basic patterns or rules in a language. Grammar instruction usually includes punctuation, parts of speech, capitalization, tenses, and sentence structure. Typically this has been taught in isolation with worksheets or workbook pages, but now it is being taught through students' writing and reading (Thompkins, 2000).

Grammar Gorilla

<http://www.funbrain.com/grammar/index.html> The Grammar Gorillas is an interactive game that helps students identify parts of speech.

Jupiter Jane's Games

http://www.iknowthat.com/com/L3?Area=L2_LanguageArts This site has many colorful, animated, interactive, and fun games dealing with the parts of speech. It is divided into two levels K-2 and 3-5.

Wacky Web Tales: Education Place

<http://eduplace.com/tales/index.html> Students are able to use parts of speech to create stories for enjoyment. This site is similar to MadLibs.

English Grammar Using JavaScript

<http://a4esl.org/q/j/> Quizzes, tests, exercises and puzzles to help you learn English as a Second Language (ESL) This project of *The Internet*

TESL Journal (iteslj.org) has thousands of contributions by many teachers.

Text Comprehension

Reading comprehension helps determine the meaning of what is being read as well as ability to understand written language. Comprehension includes both getting the gist of the meaning and interpreting the meaning by relating it to other ideas by drawing inferences, making comparisons and asking questions about it.

RHL School: Free Reading

Comprehension Worksheets
<http://www.rhlschool.com/reading.htm> Featuring free **reading comprehension**

<http://www.manatee.k12.fl.us/sites/elementary/palmasola/readcompex.htm>

(Reading Workshop) The site is designed for adults and children to work through together. It is very important to work with the child as he or she practice reading strategies and skills, so that you can praise his or her efforts, confirm correct answers and correct errors or misunderstandings.

ELC Study Zone

<http://web2.uvcs.uvic.ca/elc/studyzone/200/reading/> This site offers reading comprehensions stories with questions for understanding of what is being read. They offer many levels.

Reading Comprehension

<http://www.edhelper.com/ReadingComprehension.htm> The site offers reading comprehension stories on all levels of education from elementary to high school. It is not colorful and interactive but it does the job. Edhelper also offers many other things for other academic skills (math, science, phonics, etc.)

Room 108 – Kids Stories

<http://www.netover.com/~kingskid/108b.html> These stories are created, illustrated and animated by students. They are really cute.



Literature Guides

Authors and Illustrators Websites

Below are lists of some sites that offer a lot of valuable information on books that children read. You can find guides, vocabulary words, and much more. Some of these sites give you inside information about children's authors and illustrators.

SCORE CyberGuides

<http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/cyberguide.html> CyberGuides are supplementary, standards-based, web-delivered units of instruction centered on core works of literature. Each CyberGuide contains a student and teacher edition, standards, a task and a process by which it may be completed, teacher-selected web sites and a rubric, based on California Language Arts Content Standards.

Jan Brett

<http://www.janbrett.com/> This site is based on the wonderful children's author Jan Brett. She is also the site creator. The site offers flash cards, calendars, name tags, book labels, and many more things for students, teachers, and even parents.

Junie B. Jones

<http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/junieeb/> Get free information about all of Junie B. Jones books and teacher guides for her books.

Magic Treehouse Classroom Club

<http://www.randomhouse.com/teacher/magicth/> Get free information about all of the Magic Treehouse books and teacher guides for the stories.

Harry Potter Club

<http://www.scholastic.com/harrypotter/home.asp> Check out Scholastic for the information on Harry Potter Books

Children's Literature Web Guide and Children's Authors and Illustrators

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/authors.html> This site is a collection of Internet resources related to books for children and young adults. The Literature Web Guide is a different way to view the list of resources gathered by fans, schools, libraries, etc.

Website for Reading Fun

Fact Monster

<http://www.factmonster.com>

Word Central

<http://www.wordcentral.com>

A Game A Day

<http://www.agameaday.com>

A Puzzle A Day

<http://www.billybear4kids.com/jigsaw-puzzles/Puzzle-of-the-Day/main-page.html>

Spelling Test

<http://www.sentex.net/~mmcadams/spelling.html>

Bookworm

<http://www.popcap.com/gamepopup.php?theGame=bookworm>

Rhymezone

<http://www.rhymezone.com>

Puzzles in Education- Puzzle of the Week

<http://education.puzzles.com/>



Check off or Observation Logs

These sites are links to study aids and check off sheets to help with running logs or information about a child during reading/language arts.

Job/Study Aids- Reading Recovery

<http://www.amihome.com/rrca/rrcarefer.htm>

These aids do not come from a formal list; they are tools that some have found valuable and wish to share.

Reading Rubric by Mrs. Stone

http://wind.prohosting.com/bstone38/reading_skills.htm

Free Phonics Posters

<http://www.adrianbruce.com/reading/posters/index.htm>- Free phonics poster to print out and brighten your room.

Other:

Letter P.A.L.S.- FREE

<http://www.readersarewinners.org/index.php>

To assist schools and parents in motivating elementary school children to become strong readers. A child's ability to become a strong reader by third grade is the single greatest key to their future educational success. Yet, the 2002 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) concluded that two thirds of U.S. fourth graders read below level. Isn't it time to take a stand?

Teaching Today by Glencoe

<http://www.glencoe.com/sec/teachingtoday/language.phtml>

Articles for teachers to read or send home to parents about language arts.

Alphadictionary.com

<http://www.alphadictionary.com/articles/yankeetest.html>

StudyDog.com

<http://www.familit.org/studydog/index.cfm>

StudyDog focuses on specific early reading skills that children need to practice and accomplish in order to become successful readers. *StudyDog* teaches these skills by combining multimedia and game-like activities with a curriculum and instructional method proven effective for Kindergarteners and for first and second graders. *StudyDog* is a reading adventure where lessons are followed independently by the child on the computer.

StudyDog is a great website for K-2. Teachers can join for free, you have to navigate through the website to find the enrollment form.

Kidspiration Activities

<http://www.northcanton.sparcc.org/~ptk1nc/kidspired2002/>

The objective of this project is to help teachers develop new literacies into their content area instruction.



Professor Garfield:

http://www.professorgarfield.org/pgf_home.html

The purpose of the Professor Garfield Teachers' Lounge Section is to provide free, user-friendly, and standards-based learning materials for the classroom teacher, parent, tutor, or mentor. These materials are intended to support and supplement the ongoing work of the classroom teacher by providing leveled materials (plans, activities, downloadables, and printables) that are retrievable by grade level, subject, and/or national standard. Every effort is being made to provide pre- and post-assessment tools where appropriate and useable.

