

December Tips for Language and Literacy Skills

Courtesy of the GECDSB Speech and Language Department



Oral Language

- Play “I wonder” at home. Make up I wonder questions together. Ask them to each other and practice answering them in full sentences.
 - Examples:
 - I wonder...
 - If you could have ANY animal as a pet, which animal would you choose? Why?
 - If you could travel to any place in the world where would it be? Why?
 - If you had a magic carpet, where would you fly to? Why?
 - If you could go to any setting from any book that you have read, what setting would it be? Why?

Reading

- Help your child become a better reader:
 - Read more! – read at least 20 minutes every night
 - Ask questions before reading – e.g., “What do you think it will be about?”
 - Ask questions while reading – E.g., “What do you think will happen next?”
 - Make predictions – e.g., “I predict the character will be happy at the end”
 - Point to the words – e.g., track the words as you read them with your finger
 - Make connections to your own lives – e.g., We went on a vacation like the character
 - Make a connection to another book – e.g., the main character in this book reminds me of the main character in _____
 - Visualize and create sensory images – e.g., close you eyes and imagine the princess’ castle....
 - Reflect on the book – e.g., I liked the book because....

Writing

- Have fun writing down answers to silly questions related to the month of December
- Sample Questions:
 - Tell how to wrap a present. What are some things you could use if you didn’t have wrapping paper?
 - Think about all the things you have in your house. If you could give away one thing to someone in need, what would you give away and why?
 - You’ve heard of the gingerbread man. Make up your own special cookie. What about a gingerbread dinosaur? Or a chocolate chip cookie shaped like a star? Will your cookie have sprinkles for eyelashes? A smiley face drawn in frosting? Tell about your cookie and draw a picture too!
 - Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer was different. He used his difference to help. What special abilities do you have? How do you use them?
 - Frosty the Snowman ran into my living room and...