



## Ask Your Elementary Schooler to Give You a Reading Quiz

Children are used to answering questions about reading, but asking questions is a whole new world! Start by reading a book together. Then have your child quiz you about the book.

Encourage her to challenge you with questions that can't be answered with a simple yes or no, including ones she wondered about herself. For example:

- Why do you think the author ended the book that way?
- What would you change about the story if you could?
- How do you think the main character felt?
- What choices did you agree or disagree with in the book?
- Which role would you want most if this book were a play?
- What was your favorite part of the story?
- What does \_\_\_\_\_ mean? (Your child can choose an unfamiliar word from the book.)
- How would you have felt if the story was about you?

Answer all of your child's questions, taking time to discuss her opinions. Soon she may be answering her own questions--and enjoying it!

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## Build your child's reading fluency with simple steps

When someone is "fluent" in a language, they speak it in a flowing, natural manner. The same is true for "fluent readers." They read so smoothly that it's almost as if they're talking. How can you help your child become a fluent reader? Help your child:

- Recognize "sight words." These are words that your child recognizes immediately. He doesn't have to sound them out. Talk with the teacher about the most important sight words for your child to practice. Look for exciting books with these words, and read the stories often.
- Read daily. Read to and with your child. Let him read to you. When you read aloud, be a reading role model. Show how fluent reading sounds. Do your best to read with ease and expression. (If a book is new, you might practice before reading it to your child.)

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