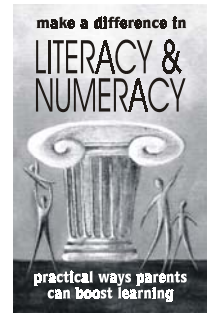


# Reading newspapers and magazines with your child

For students in junior and middle grades



## Discover the world of newspapers

"The cumulative effect of daily newspaper reading pays major dividends in broadening a student's knowledge." Stephanie Harvey, *Nonfiction Matters*

### Find a purpose

What are you looking for when you pick up the paper?

- the comics, to read for fun
- the movie listings, to check for this weekend's entertainment
- the hockey standings, to satisfy your curiosity
- the stock price, for a possible investment
- your horoscope, for laughs
- the issues at hand, to understand our world more fully

### Consider the features

- |               |                 |           |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|
| • Index       | • Headlines     | • Bullets |
| • Photographs | • Captions      | • Tables  |
| • Charts      | • Illustrations | • Maps    |

### Explore the sections of the paper

What information might interest your child? Once you have an idea, ask your child to find the details. Turn to the appropriate section and page, then discuss what you see—headlines, pictures, charts, maps, etc.

Have your child read the words. Do all the words make sense? Match the visuals to the words for greater understanding. Does anything else need clarification? You may need to read some parts

aloud and explain some of the words and phrases. Ask *who, what, where, when, and why* questions.

Remember that reading the paper means picking and choosing sections and articles, not necessarily reading the whole paper.

### Be creative

- Keep a cupboard, drawer or box of newspaper articles. See how many different kinds of articles you can find (e.g. recipe, movie review, funny article, comics, map, poem, editorial, etc.).
- Do a scavenger hunt. Find all the photographs. How many show more than one person? How many don't have the name of the person in the caption? How many have animals in them?
- Cut out your favourite comic, the most interesting editorial or the article that makes you think about the city/world you live in and post it on the fridge. How do others in your family react?
- Create a challenge. Everyone in the family picks a stock and follows it for one month. Who made the most money? Who had the greatest gain in one day?

### Newspaper web sites provide more resources

- *The Toronto Star* – [www.thestar.com](http://www.thestar.com)
- *Brand New Planet* – [www.brandnewplanet.com](http://www.brandnewplanet.com). This paper is for young people aged 9 to 14.
- *National Post* – [www.nationalpost.com](http://www.nationalpost.com)
- *The Globe and Mail* – [www.globeandmail.com](http://www.globeandmail.com)

- *The Mississauga News* – [www.mississauganews.com](http://www.mississauganews.com)
- *The Brampton Guardian* – [www.thebramptonguardian.com](http://www.thebramptonguardian.com)

## Discover the world of magazines

What kinds of magazines suit your fancy as a parent? There are magazines to fit everyone's tastes. Find a subject that interests your child and get a subscription, search out the free ones or download articles from the internet.

### Find a topic of interest

- Sports
- Science and technology
- Entertainment
- Fashion
- News issues
- Math
- Literature

### Consider the features

- |            |               |            |
|------------|---------------|------------|
| • Cover    | • Index       | • Titles   |
| • Colour   | • Photographs | • Captions |
| • Diagrams | • Labels      | • Font     |

### Explore the magazine

Look through the magazine. Ask your child to pick an article that might be of interest. Once your child is finished, read it. What did you think about the article? Exchange opinions, questions and feelings. Ask *who*, *what*, *where*, *when* and *why* questions. Decide what is important together and talk about it. Children and teens need to pick out the main idea and supporting details while reading.

You can also have fun with surveys, tests, advertisements, question and answer sections and crossword puzzles. Remember that reading a magazine means picking and choosing sections and articles, and not necessarily reading the whole magazine.

### Share your curiosity

- Find a wild fact in the magazine. Create a question and ask your child to find the answer. Challenge him to do the same with you.
- Ask your child to find information about an interesting person. What is the most intriguing fact about that person? Why is that fact intriguing? Are there other details she would like to share?
- Cut out your favourite picture, a riddle or the article that makes you think about the city/world you live in, and post it on the fridge. How do others in your family react?

### Access free resources

- *Tribute Kids* (available at Cineplex Odeon locations)
- *Famous Kids* – (available at Famous Players locations)
- *What* – [www.whatmagnet.com](http://www.whatmagnet.com)
- *Verve* – [www.vervegirl.com](http://www.vervegirl.com)
- *Fuel* – [www.fuelpowered.com](http://www.fuelpowered.com)

Consider a subscription to one these magazines:

- *Wild* – [www.cwf-fcf.org](http://www.cwf-fcf.org)
- *Kidsworld* – [www.kidsworld-online.com](http://www.kidsworld-online.com)
- *Eye on Science* – [www.eyeonscience.org](http://www.eyeonscience.org)
- *Owl* – [www.owlkids.com](http://www.owlkids.com)
- Scholastic: *SuperScience*, *Storyworks*, *Dynamath*, *Scope*, *Action*, *Science World*, *Scholastic Art*, *Scholastic Math*, *Choices* [www.scholastic.ca](http://www.scholastic.ca)
- *National Geographic Kids* – [www.nationalgeographic.com/ngkids](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngkids)
- *Sports Illustrated for Kids* – [www.sikids.com](http://www.sikids.com)

- *Time for Kids* – [www.timeforkids.com](http://www.timeforkids.com)

This tip sheet was prepared by Bettina Samson,  
Resource Teacher.