

# Parent Connection

A Newsletter Full of Ideas to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader and Writer



## Tip

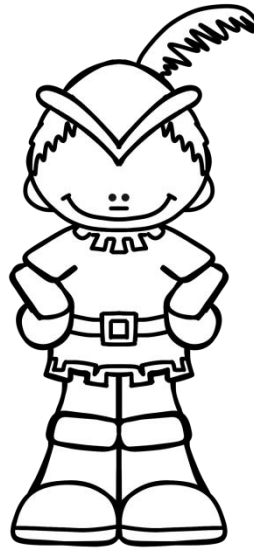
Asking your child to give you a play-by-play is an effective way to improve vocabulary. It also helps your child practice with skills needed to become a good reader such as summarizing and sequencing events.

Focusing on one event makes this a manageable activity. After your child has been to a party, sports event, seen a movie, or played a game is a great time to give this a try.

Be sure to . . .

- Ask questions to guide your child through the sequence of events.
- Repeat portions of what your child says using new and interesting words.
- Praise when your child for explaining the situation well or using fascinating words.

## Free Online Resources



Here is a collection of six websites where children can hear and read books. You'll find everything from picture books, chapter books, and magazines.

<http://www.bookunitteacher.com/parent/2.htm>

## Activity to Try

Play "I'm Thinking of an Object." This game may be played while driving in a car, eating breakfast, or just about any time you have a few moments.

The questioner may ask up to 10 questions to figure out the object. The questions must be answered with "yes" or "no."

Examples

- Is it alive?
- Can you find it in a house?
- Is it bigger than a car?

If the questioner can guess the object in 10 questions or less, s/he receives a point. Once the 10 questions are asked, repeat the game with the other player thinking of an object.

This activity is great for building vocabulary.

## Thinking Outside the Box

Reading game instructions is a terrific way to get your child reading difficult material. You can try out a new game that you have never played before, or ask your child to verify a rule about something you are unsure of in a game you have played many times. Either way, your child must read and understand the rules.

