

Improving comprehension

Reading comprehension is so important. How can you help your child improve his understanding of what he reads? Try a “paired reading” with your youngster.

1. First, you and your child silently read the same part of a story, an article, or a textbook. Try two or three paragraphs to start.
2. Next, listen while your youngster summarizes aloud what he has just read. He might say, “I learned that sedimentary rocks are made from pressure.” After he’s finished summarizing, offer your corrections or additions to what he heard. Example: “We also learned that igneous rocks come from cooling lava.”
3. Then, take turns reading another two or three paragraphs and changing roles. Switch back and forth until the whole story, article, or chapter is read.

Note: This activity is a good study aid for subjects like science or history—and it builds listening skills.



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