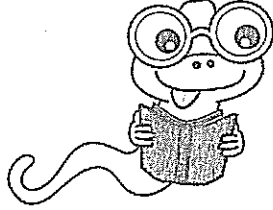


Free and Fun Online Reading

-From the Reading Room-



Outstanding Reading Websites for Elementary Readers

Children become fluent in reading with practice, practice, practice. I've used these free, engaging reading games to hold their attention and keep them motivated. They are among the best methods for turning the hard work of learning to read into play.

These excellent sites for preK and elementary children are backed by a tremendous amount of research into how kids learn to read and how they become fluent readers.

Starfall Learn to Read with Phonics

reading games for preK to 2nd grade children

Starfall Education has created an engaging group of games and activities that range from the ABCs to fables. The stories and poems can be read by the narrator, the child, or by your child with assistance. Your child can read it and click on a word they need help with.

Reading material includes simple sentences, short stories, poems, plays, fiction, nonfiction, comics, folk tales, Greek myths, Chinese fables. The phonics section includes videos to illustrate letter sounds and patterns.

Between the Lions

for K-3rd grade

PBS Kids hosts some terrific educational material for children and their Between the Lions reading games and interactives are among the best. There are read-along folktales and fables with a twist, clever song videos of letter sounds, and amusing games. The games incorporate the basic building blocks of reading skills using phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and text comprehension.

Storyline Online

for K-3rd grade students

The Screen Actors Guild Foundation has a wonderful story read along website, Storyline Online. Well-known SAG actors of all ages read 24 popular children's picture books. The narration is accompanied by illustrations from the book. Some of the stories use storybook cutout animation.

Each book has accompanying lesson plan ideas and activities. My kids love to hear the actors read the stories, as they're very expressive. I've heard many of them copy the tone and pitch of the readers when the children read the books aloud themselves.

ReadWriteThink Student Interactives

for K-2nd grade kids

ReadWriteThink Student Interactives, from the International Reading Association and National Council of Teachers of English, are jam-packed with lessons and interactive games for students of all ages learning reading and writing skills. For children learning to read English, they have six interactive games listed below. Each student interactive is accompanied by lesson plans.

ABC Match - Match initial letters and letter sounds with pictures.

Construct-a-Word - Kids choose a word ending, then add beginning letters and letter blends to create a word bank.

Picture Match - Match a picture to a beginning-letter or short- or long-vowel sounds.

What's in the Bag? - Develop vocabulary skills by listening to descriptive words to identify objects.

Word Family Sort - Helps beginning and struggling readers recognize word patterns using onset and rime.

Word Wizards - Helps kids develop reading comprehension and spelling skills, using clues and scrambled letters from popular children's books.

PBS Reading Games

for kids in preK-3rd grade

PBS Kids has more than 60 Reading Games, connected to characters from their television series such as Sesame Street, Clifford, Martha Speaks, and Cailou. When your child successfully completes them, many of the games provide instant rewards, such as video clips or more fun games.

Make a book with Elmo by choosing characters and decorating the pages. Then Elmo reads a story designed by your child to your child. The completed story is printable. Play Rhyme Time Bingo with Wonder Red. Print the completed picture or choose from other instant prizes. Learn vocabulary by helping Martha add captions to her scrapbook pictures. When you correctly caption all the pictures, you get to watch a brief video clip from Martha Speaks.

Khan Academy Kids app

for PreK - 1st Grade

This engaging [app](#) combines math, reading, drawing and storytelling in thousands of activities. Original stories, games galore, and beautifully illustrated characters hold the interest of young children.

Storynory

Age Range: K to 5th grade

With more than 600 audio stories, [Storynory](#) is a longtime favorite in the UK. It provides a broad range of original titles, fairytales, myths, world stories, and classic authors. Children listen as they read along with the expressive storytellers. The stories also available via podcast.