How You Can Help

Family engagement makes a difference in reading achievement. Children are more likely to succeed when their caregivers read with them every day. You can also:

1. **Get a library card and check out decodable books**
2. **Play phonics games and activities at the Library**
3. **Take your child to library programs that support literacy, like Kids Club and Super Science**
4. **Learn more about our public schools by reading the annual A+ Schools Report to the Community**
5. **Join the free Literacy @ Your Library online community from Teach My Kid To Read**

Need more guidance?

Ask a children's staff member

Reading, Your Child, and You

You are your child's first teacher. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is here to help you with their reading journey.

Learning to read is hard work! Children are balancing many processes at once, such as sounding out words, discovering new vocabulary, and understanding the meaning of text.

Visit our website for more information

Rising Readers

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

carnegielibrary.org

RISING READERS

SUPPORT YOUR K-5 READER

carnegielibrary.org



What Skills Make Up Reading?



The Science of Reading

This term may be familiar. It simply refers to all the research about *how* children learn to read best. It is not a set program, just information about what works.

So, what *does* work? Children learn important skills like the ones above when:

- Information is shared clearly and directly
- There is plenty of time for practice
- Skills build on each other in a logical, structured way

Check Out Our Decodables!

You can now borrow decodables from the Library!

Decodable books are written so your child can practice using phonics they have already been taught. These books are perfect for practicing those word recognition and fluency skills shown above.

Each book focuses on specific letter-to-sound skills.

Unsure where to start?

Ask a children's staff member for help!

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: Children learn to read naturally, like learning to speak.

Fact: Reading is a skill that must be taught.

Tip: Ask your child's teacher three things:
1. Are they on grade level?
2. What supports are they receiving?
3. How can I help at home?

Myth: Good readers use guessing as a strategy.

Fact: Good readers use what they know about letter sounds to decode words.

Tip: Encourage your child to sound out each letter in unfamiliar words. Go slowly, sound by sound.

If your child is stuck:

"Eyes on the word. Stretch out the sounds slowly: /m/ - /a/ - /p/ (mmm-aaa-p)"

If your child reads *bunny* for the word *rabbit*:

"Let's pause. Look at the letters. Does bunny start with an *r*? What sound does *r* make?"

Myth: Correcting a child's reading mistakes will discourage them.

Fact: Corrections are essential to a child's growth as a reader.

Tip: Provide quick and gentle corrections. If corrections are frequent, consider a different book.