

FAMILY GAME NIGHT GAME SUGGESTIONS

FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS:

- Make up lists of directions for the entire family to have to follow.
- Let the kids make a list for you

This encourages writing complete thoughts as well as letting the kids be in charge at times.

IMPROVE READING:

- Read different genres, or types of literature. Make a game of how many different types you can read in a month.
- Read aloud together- studies show that reading with kids up to 5th grade is still very helpful in improving their reading. You read a page and they read a page.
- Read in different voices- read it like a wrestler or a mouse.
- Stop through out the story and ask them what pictures of the story do they see in their minds. Good readers play a “movie” of the story as they enjoy a book.

BUILD VOCABULARY:

- Read cereal boxes and look up the hard words in the dictionary. The person that can find the longest word wins.
- Play a word Scavenger Hunt- have them look for a word they do not know that starts with a certain letter. If they look up the definition give them lots of praise. You can say the word must come from a specific type of literature, newspaper, non-fiction etc.
- Hide vocabulary words around the house for a hide and go seek game.
- When you are traveling look for words that begin with each letter of the alphabet and you must go in order.
- Take one or two words from the EOG vocabulary each week to focus on. Look up the definition and write put it on the refrigerator. Each time an adult uses the word in everyday conversation they get 3 points. Every time the child uses it they get 5 points. Keep up with the points and see who improves their vocabulary.
- Play “Which Reference Book Is It?”- Give them some trivia in the form of a question and they must decide which book to find it in. They need to know a dictionary, encyclopedia, thesaurus, atlas and almanac. See if they can then answer the question.

WRITING:

- After they read a story, have them pick two of the main characters. Have them retell the story from the other characters point of view.
- Play “Word At A Time”, all players sit in a circle. Tell a story one word at a time (or write it). Each player provides one word of the sentence. The stories can get really funny. Even younger siblings can join in this one.
- Fold a paper into 3 parts. One person writes on the first section the beginning of the story. They only write the characters and the setting. They fold it over to hide it. On the second section another person writes the middle events of the story. Such as the problem or the situation that will take place. They fold it over. The last person tells how the story will end. Will it end happily? Sadly? On a railroad car? Will the problem be solved? Then you open the paper, read out the beginning middle and end and write a story to go along with the groups brainstorm. You can begin by telling it out loud and when you all get good at it you can write them down.