

ADOLESCENT LITERACY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Family support boosts learning, and Lexia is here to help. Try these fun games and activities to reinforce and build your reader's literacy skills from home.

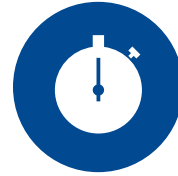


Act It Out

Can your reader tell when an author is trying to convince them to do or believe something? Exploring how persuasive writing works can improve their reading comprehension.

Look at different ads together – online, on TV, in magazines – and talk about how advertisers try to persuade us. Common techniques are asking rhetorical questions, repeating words and phrases, using inclusive language (friends & family!), and demanding action.

Now your reader is ready to write a script and act out a persuasive ad of their own!



Beat the Clock

Help build your reader's vocabulary with these Greek word parts:

arch (chief): architect, anarchy, hierarchy

dem (people): democracy, pandemic

graph (written): autograph, paragraph

ology (the study of): technology, biology

path (feelings, suffering): empathy, pathetic

psych (mind): psychic, psychologist

therm (heat): thermometer, hypothermia

Make word cards together – write a Greek word part and its meaning on each card. Then, display one card at a time and see who can make the longest list of words that include the Greek word part in one minute. Using a dictionary is recommended!



Art Studio

Making predictions about what's going to happen next is a great way to improve reading comprehension. Try this fun project with your reader to help them predict like a pro.

Find a comic strip that shows a series of events. Cut out or cover the final panel, and give the comic strip to your reader. Have them predict the next event and draw their own version of the final panel. Then, display the original and talk about how they're similar and how they're different.

If this project is a hit, try pausing in the middle of a book, movie, or TV show and asking your reader to make a prediction about what's next. Have them illustrate or write about their ideas – or simply brainstorm and discuss predictions together.



Word Play

Your reader can boost their understanding of academic vocabulary by creating personal definitions. Academic vocabulary includes words that are often used in school discussions and texts, like *analyze*, *component*, *deduce*, *evident*, *function*, *impact*, *method*, *perspective*, *relevant*, and *specify*. Look for challenging academic words in online news sources, and have your reader follow these steps to ramp up their vocabulary learning:

1. Brainstorm what you know about the word.
2. Read the dictionary definition.
3. Write a personal definition. This can include examples, pictures, and using the word in a sentence.

Encourage your reader to keep their personal definitions in a journal, and try to use the words together in family conversations.



Speak Up

Strong readers can make their voices sound natural as they read – as if they’re having a conversation. Help your reader develop fluent reading skills with this fun activity.

Work together to select informational articles or short stories to read aloud. Have them practice reading clearly and with expression. Then, encourage them to record themselves to create audiobooks for friends and family.



Get Moving

Play a game of catch to build your reader’s vocabulary. Focus on prefixes and suffixes – meaningful word parts added to the beginning or end of words.

Pick a common prefix (*non-* or *pre-*) or suffix (*-less* or *-able*). Say a word with that word part, and pass a ball to another player. Pass the ball back and forth, thinking of a new word each time. The player left holding the ball after running out of words starts the next round with a new prefix or suffix.



Scavenger Hunt

Verbs. Interjections. Adjectives. Nouns. Adverbs. It’s grammar time! Knowing parts of speech not only supports comprehension, but can also help your reader become a better writer.

Make grammar fun by organizing a scavenger hunt. Review the different parts of speech, and have your reader look for 10 examples of each in a news article.

Then, play a fill-in-the-blank word game. Ask your reader (or have them ask you) to name new words to replace some of the ones they found, using the part of speech as a clue. Have fun reading aloud the new version of the article!

Verbs show action or state of being.

Interjections show emotion (Wow! Awww. Um).

Adjectives describe nouns.

Nouns are people, places, or things.

Adverbs describe verbs, adjectives, or adverbs.