

High Impact Home Strategies

San Diego Unified School District • Family and Community Engagement Department

Strategy #1

Read to your Child: Ask Questions

For Pre-School to Kindergarten, try to spend most of your time reading **TO** your child.
For 1st grade to 5th grade, spend time reading both **TO** and **WITH** your child.



Connect at a special
time each day



Connect in a
special place



Connect through
Media and Text



Connect through
Interaction

After connecting in a special time, special place and with a special story, try on High Impact Home Strategy:

Ask Questions

Before, during, and after reading to your child, take time to talk about the ideas and events in the books you read together. Remember to validate your child's thinking and interests, and to give your child ample time to think about as well as respond to your questions.

Before Reading:

Talk about the title and cover illustrations.

Here are some questions you can ask your child:

- What do you notice about the title and cover illustrations?*
- What do you think this story is about? Why do you think that?*
- What are you wondering about?*

During Reading:

Stop at interesting parts and take turns sharing your thinking.

Here are some prompts you could use anytime:

- What are you thinking?*
- What is happening?*
- Tell me more about that...*

After Reading:

Talk about the BIG ideas of the story.

- What do you think was an important message/idea in this story?*
- What part did you like best? Why?*
- How do you feel about the ending? Why?*

Use Open-Ended Questions:

Close-ended questions are those which can be answered by a single word or simple "yes" or "no," while **Open-Ended Questions** require more thought and more elaboration. Open questions require children to think and talk more, and talking helps us learn! It is so important during this time to listen to what our students have to say because they have wonderful ideas!

