



# **Rising First Grade Resource Guide**

**Cornerstone's resource guide to help reinforce reading, writing and math skills over the summer**



## Reading With Your Child

Read...read...and read some more!! Every child should read and/or be read to each and every day. Give your child time for independent reading, as well as the treat of being read to by YOU!!

### **Before, During and After**

Before Reading:

1. Read the title and author.
2. Ask your child what he/she thinks the book will be about.
3. Look through the pictures of the book together.
4. As the two of you are looking through the pictures, make guesses about what might happen in the book.

During Reading:

1. Have your child read to you.
2. Stop and talk from time to time about the guesses you two made and how they compare to what actually happened in the story.

After Reading:

1. Discuss with your child his/her favorite parts, funny parts, sad parts or whatever is appropriate.
2. Ask your child if he/she liked the book and why or why not.
3. Encourage your child to read the book to other family members.

## **What to say to your child when they are having difficulty figuring out a word:**

1. Before saying anything, give them plenty of time to try and figure it out on his/her own.
  2. Say, "Try that again."
  3. Say, "Look at the picture."
  4. Say, "Think about what would make sense."
  5. Say, "Look for digraphs (or chunks) that you know."
- \*an example of a digraph would be the "sh" sound

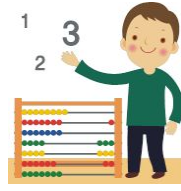
## **Activities**

- Plan to go to the library at least once a week. Establish this as a routine and your child will look forward to this outing. Let him/her check out as many books as is allowed by the library. Maybe your child could get several books by one author and do an author study...or perhaps check out just poetry books one week...or all non-fiction books the next.
- Look through a cookbook with a family member. Make the most interesting dish you can find in the cookbook. Don't forget to write your grocery list first!
- If you are going on a trip this summer, read about the place you are visiting in a guidebook or by using the Internet, brochures, maps or books from the library. You can even mark your travel route on a map.
- Plan a family "booknic" at your favorite outdoor spot, such as the beach, a park or the woods. Be sure to pack a lunch and plenty to read!
- Collect shells at the beach or rocks along a trail. Use a nature guide to identify them.
- Have a treasure hunt. Leave word clues for your child to follow to a treasure.
- Keep books in the car for your child to read on long trips.
- Take words off of sight word ring that students used during the school year and play "Slap". Call out a word. The first person to slap it gets to keep it.



## Writing With Your Child

- Have a special table or area in the house where your child can create projects using a variety of materials such as: colored papers, scissors, glue, water colors, buttons, markers, pencils, crayons, stickers, fabric, cardboard, etc. Make a book of these creations.
- Pick a special spot in the yard and let your child write down observations as this area changes over time. Or perhaps let him/her take photographs of this area every few weeks, noting the changes that occur.
- Purchase a special notebook or journal for your child to write in over the summer. Take it with you on vacation trips...or even on short errand trips. Your child can jot down notes and thoughts along the way.
- Buy a large map or a globe and let your child find the places where you travel during the summer. Mark these areas on the map and/or write down the places in a travel log.
- Create a scrapbook with family photos and write captions to go with each page.
- Send postcards and letters to friends.
- Make the grocery list for the week. While shopping, keep track of the items purchased by crossing them off your list.
- Take turns writing back and forth to your child. Leave a note by their bed or in their lunchbox.



## Math Activities

- Practice counting money by playing store. Use real coins and dollar bills.
- Use an empty egg carton as a counting tool to practice addition and subtraction skills up to 10. Place objects in the slots, and use the empty slots to count up to/from 10.
- Develop time skills by incorporating the clock into their schedule. At home, create a bedtime schedule (i.e. brush teeth at 8:00; bedtime story at 8:10; bed at 8:30). Create a poster with the schedule and hang it in your child's bedroom. Begin with easy times (7:00) and gradually progress to more difficult times (7:30 and 7:45).
- Involve your child in activities at home that use measurement such as picture framing and home improvement projects.

Games you can play as a family:

### **Tens Go Fish**

Here is a video demonstrating how to play the game:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yCh5jyd25R0>

### **Guess My Number**

This game is played similarly to 20 questions. Player 1 selects a number between 1 and 100, writes it on a piece of paper and keeps it hidden.

Player 2 asks "yes" or "no" questions to narrow the possibilities and come close to the selected number. Some possible questions might include: Is it odd? Is it even? Is it less than \_\_\_? Is it greater than \_\_\_? Is it between \_\_\_ and \_\_\_? With each question the number becomes easier to guess.

### **Slap It! An Odds and Evens Card Game**

Play with a partner. Use an ordinary deck of cards with the face cards removed. The dealer shuffles the cards and then deals them, face down, to each player in rotation, until all the cards have been passed out. (It doesn't matter if one player gets an extra card or two!) Players arrange their cards, without looking at them, into a neat pile in front of them. The object of the game is to win as many cards as possible by being the first to slap each odd number as it lands in the center.

1. Beginning with the dealer, each player lifts the top card off of his pile and places it face up in the center, making sure to turn up the card so it's facing away from him, so he doesn't see it sooner than anyone else.
2. When the card put down is odd, the first player to slap his hand down on it takes it, as well as all the cards beneath it. The player winning these cards turns them face down, places them under his pile of cards, and shuffles his deck to form a new, larger pile. He then places the pile in front of him as before.
3. If more than one player slaps a card, the one whose hand is directly on top of the card wins the pile. If a player slaps at any card in the center that is not odd, he must give one card, face down, to the player of that card. When a player runs out of cards, he stays in the game until the next odd card is turned. He can slap at that card in an effort to get a new pile. If he fails to win that next pile, he is out of the game.
4. Play continues until one player has won all the cards. That player is the winner!

### **Game Night**

Play family games together. Make one night a week "Game Night." Use commercial games or make up your own versions of well-known games. Some excellent games are: Boggle Junior; Scrabble Junior; Pictionary Junior, etc.

### **Puzzles**

Work on puzzles together! Puzzles are wonderful problem-solving activities. Set aside a corner of the room with a jigsaw puzzle and table that the whole family can work on together throughout the summer.

### **Number Lines**

Purchase sidewalk chalk and let your child draw number lines; write by 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's to 100; create and draw patterns, etc.

**Estimation Game**

Play estimation games with your child. Choose a clear container and each week put a collection of items in it. Let your child estimate how many objects there are and then have him/her count the items to find out the actual amount.

**Number Stories**

Make up number stories with your child. Have manipulatives available (such as pennies, toothpicks, blocks, etc.) that your child may use to solve the problem. Have him/her write down how he/she solved the problem using pictures, numbers and words.

# Educational Technology for Kids to Explore

*RAZ kids (app and website)*

Your child has been using this website and app throughout the school year to read leveled books. Cornerstone has purchased the membership for your student to continue using RAZ kids throughout the summer. This is a great resource for nonfiction and fiction reading material.

<https://www.raz-kids.com/main/ViewPage/name/index>

*Writing Wizard (app) \$4.99*

Your child has been using this app throughout the school year to practice writing letters and numbers.

*Quick Math Jr (app) free with ads or can buy in bundle for ad free play*

Your child has been using the app throughout the school year to practice a variety of math skills including place value, number sense and basic addition/subtraction.

*Starfall (K-2)*

Free website full of fun activities that encourage reading and the development of phonics skills.

<http://www.starfall.com/>

*ABCya.com (K-5)*

Website full of games that reinforce math and phonics concepts.

<http://www.abcya.com/>

The following are websites that kindergarten children might enjoy.

[www.pbskids.org](http://www.pbskids.org)

[www.eric-carle.com](http://www.eric-carle.com)

[www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com)

[www.coolmath.com](http://www.coolmath.com)

[www.janbrett.com](http://www.janbrett.com)



Also, listed below are Apps for Smartphones and iPads that your child may like to use:

Bible for Kids

Chatterkids

Drawing Pad

Stop Motion

Felt Board

Pic Collage

Quick Math Jr.

Pocket Phonics

Marble Math Junior

Candy Count