

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.



Get Moving

Exercise for mind and body! Write some prefixes – word parts that come at the beginning of a word – on the ground with chalk. Have your reader jump to each prefix, read it aloud, and name a word that begins with the prefix. Bonus points for using the word in a sentence!

Here are some common prefixes to try:

con-	mis-	pre-	sub-
dis-	multi-	pro-	trans-
ex-	non-	re-	un-



Photo Booth

Support your reader's understanding of story structure with this fun photo-taking activity. Talk about a familiar story, taking time to review these key elements:

- setting** - where/when the story happens
- characters** - people or animals in the story
- problem** - what motivates the characters
- major events** - what happens in the story
- solution** - how the problem is fixed

Have kids create their own story by taking photos to show the setting, characters, and major events. Then, look at the pictures together, and listen as they tell the story. For an extra challenge, urge them to write it down to make a mini book.



Act It Out

Nouns. Verbs. Adjectives. It's grammar time! Knowing parts of speech not only helps kids become stronger readers, but also helps them become better writers.

Make grammar fun for your reader by playing charades with these words – or think of your own! To be correct, players need to guess the part of speech as well as the word itself.

Nouns: firefighter, elephant, snake, tree, artist, monster, scissors, baby, teacher, dog

Verbs: swim, eat, run, climb, read, sneeze, cry, sleep, dance, trip, paint, stomp, spin

Adjectives: hungry, tiny, excited, heavy, tired, hot, cold, surprised, scared, strong



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 *conclude*, *benefit*, *determine*, and *represent*. Choose some challenging academic words from informational books or articles, 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.



Art Studio

Comparing and contrasting – looking at how things are alike and how they're different – is a great way to improve reading comprehension. Try this fun project with your reader to help them compare and contrast like a pro.

Have them illustrate a book character, complete with details from the story. Then, they should draw themselves next to the character. Ask them to label the pictures to show what's the same and what's different.

If this project is a hit, try it with characters from other books, movies, or TV shows.



Tournament Time

Host a poetry tournament! Find eight poems by different poets, and create a tournament bracket – like the ones used for basketball playoffs – with poem titles instead of team names.

Read the poems together and talk about what you like or don't like. Then, match two poems against each other at a time. Have family members vote on a winner to continue in the tournament until a champion emerges.



Scavenger Hunt

Dazzling. Fragile. Bizarre. Encourage your reader to use describing words like these – called adjectives – to help them focus on details and develop a rich vocabulary. Here's a fun activity to get started.

Talk about the meaning of each adjective, have your reader use it in a sentence, and brainstorm related words together. Then, send them on a scavenger hunt for items that fit each description.

To add more describing words to your reader's word bank, write them down, use them daily, and try more scavenger hunts!

metallic	brittle	ancient
elegant	complex	dainty
drab	trendy	rare
modern	massive	lopsided



Student Choice Board

Your reader can boost their literacy skills all year long with these fun activities. Have them go for five in a row, or try to fill the whole board!

<p>Research your favorite animal. Draw a picture of the animal and its habitat. Then, list five new facts you learned.</p>	<p>Go on a grammar scavenger hunt. In a book you're reading, find and list ten nouns, ten verbs, and ten adjectives.</p>	<p>Find a poem you like, and practice reading it aloud. Then, create a beat to go with it. (Try tapping a pencil on a table!) Record yourself reading the poem in rhythm to the beat.</p>	<p>Interview friends and family members about their favorite books. Ask them to tell you what each book is about and what they like about it.</p>	<p>Read two books by the same author. Draw a Venn diagram to show what is similar and what is different.</p> 
<p>In a book you're reading, find five words you don't know. Try to figure out the meaning by looking for clues in the words around it. Then, use a dictionary to check your guesses.</p>	<p>Read a biography or an autobiography. List three facts you learned from the book.</p>	<p>Record a video to show how to make a craft, learn a skill, or play a game. Use words like <i>first</i>, <i>next</i>, <i>while</i>, <i>then</i>, <i>before</i>, <i>now</i>, and <i>finally</i> as you explain what to do.</p>	<p>Some prefixes are related to numbers. Write at least one word for each of these prefixes: <i>uni-</i> (one), <i>bi-</i> (two), <i>tri-</i> (three), <i>quad-</i> (four), <i>quint-</i> (five), and <i>centi-</i> (hundred).</p>	<p>Draw a map that shows the setting in a book you're reading. Add details from the book or from your imagination.</p>
<p><i>Complex</i>, <i>challenging</i>, <i>elegant</i>, <i>beneficial</i>, and <i>flexible</i> are all describing words. Go on a scavenger hunt for items or pictures that fit each description!</p>	<p>Record yourself reading a chapter of a book. Practice first to make your voice sound natural as you read. Share your recording with a younger friend or family member.</p>	<p>FREE</p>  <p>SPACE</p>	<p>Read a new book, and write a review. Describe what you liked and what you didn't like. Share your review with a friend or family member.</p>	<p>There are three ways to pronounce the suffix <i>-ed</i>: /ed/ as in <i>rented</i>, /d/ as in <i>sailed</i>, and /t/ as in <i>jumped</i>. In a book you're reading, find five examples of each sound of <i>-ed</i>.</p>
<p>Go on a prefix scavenger hunt. Take a book, and try to find at least one word that begins with each of these prefixes: <i>pro-</i>, <i>multi-</i>, <i>sub-</i>, <i>trans-</i>, and <i>con-</i>.</p>	<p>Tell a story by taking photos to show the setting, the characters, and the major events. Share the photos and your story with a friend or family member.</p>	<p>Read a science fiction or fantasy book. Describe a character who reminds you of someone you know or a scene from the book that reminds you of something in your life.</p>	<p>Find an example of each of these text features: a table of contents, an index, a glossary, a labeled diagram, a captioned photo, a heading, and a subheading.</p>	<p>Read about another part of the world. Create a travel brochure with facts and information, including interesting sights, fun activities, and delicious foods.</p>
<p>Read two informational articles on the same topic. List the important details that are included in both texts.</p>	<p>Draw a picture of yourself standing next to a book character. Label details in the picture to show how you and the character are the same and how you are different.</p>	<p>Write to your favorite author. Share what you like about their books. Ask a question or suggest an idea for a new book.</p>	<p>Use the letters in <i>Summer Reading Bingo</i> to make as many smaller words as you can.</p>	<p>Go on a suffix scavenger hunt. Take a book, and try to find at least one word that ends with each of these suffixes: <i>-able</i>, <i>-tion</i>, <i>-ous</i>, <i>-ture</i>, and <i>-ive</i>.</p>