

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 suffixes – word parts that come at the end of a word – on the ground with chalk. Have your reader jump to each suffix, read it aloud, and name a word that ends with the suffix. Bonus points for using the word in a sentence!

Here are some common suffixes to try:

-ness	-tion	-able	-ment
-ous	-al	-ity	-ible
-ive	-ly	-ful	-ture



Act It Out

It's raining cats and dogs. Or is it? Phrases like this – called idioms – don't mean what they seem to say and can be tricky for some readers. Talk about the meaning of these idioms together:

to go out on a limb (to take a risk)

to have cold feet (to become afraid)

to be down to earth (to be sensible)

to be all ears (to be ready to listen)

to be fishy (to be questionable)

to hold your horses (to wait)

Get the ball rolling (See what we did there?) by playing charades with these idioms. To be correct, players need to guess the idiom and explain what it means.



Word Play

Did you know that almost half of all English words come from Latin? Help your reader build their vocabulary by exploring these Latin roots:

aud (to hear): audible, audience, audio

ject (to throw): eject, projectile, injection

port (to carry): export, portable, transport

rupt (to break): disrupt, interrupt, erupt

struct (to build): obstruct, construction

tract (to pull): extract, tractor, distraction

Create a set of word cards together – write one word per card – talking about the meaning of each word, highlighting the Latin root, and brainstorming related words. Then, look for words with the same Latin roots next time you read together.



Art Studio

Some words do double duty. Words like *wave*, *spring*, *trunk*, *litter*, and *bark* all have more than one meaning.

To boost your reader's vocabulary, talk about the different meanings of each word and have them use it in two different sentences.

Then, set out the art supplies. Have kids illustrate the different meanings. Bonus points for including both meanings in one scene and writing a sentence to describe it!

Like this project? Use these multiple meaning words next time:

cast	court	ruler
park	shed	school
toast	seal	draft
note	calf	staple
stamp	duck	right



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 for kids to read aloud. Have them practice reading clearly and with expression. Then, encourage them to record themselves to create audiobooks for friends and family.



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

Bulky. Peculiar. Flimsy. 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 kids 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!

rustic	camouflaged	official
casual	harmless	powerful
impressive	glossy	ordinary
bland	recent	necessary
velvety	miniature	elaborate



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><i>contribution</i> • <i>reduce</i> • <i>estimate</i> • <i>influence</i> • <i>therefore</i></p> <p>Look up the definition of each word, and write it down. Then, write a paragraph using all five words.</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>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>Go on a grammar scavenger hunt. In a book you're reading, find and list ten nouns, ten verbs, and ten adjectives.</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 informational articles on the same topic. List the important details that are included in both texts.</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>Read a biography or an autobiography. List five facts you learned from the book.</p>	<p>Start a word collection. Listen for words you don't know, look up their definitions, and write them down. Add a star next to each word every time you use it yourself!</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>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>-ous</i>, <i>-ive</i>, <i>-tion</i>, <i>-ize</i>, <i>-al</i>, and <i>-ness</i>.</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>Write at least one word for each of these Latin roots: <i>ject</i> (to throw), <i>port</i> (to carry), <i>tact</i> (to touch), <i>rupt</i> (to break), <i>form</i> (to make), and <i>vis</i> (to see). Use a dictionary to help!</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>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>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><i>Spring</i>, <i>duck</i>, <i>toast</i>, <i>note</i>, and <i>park</i> are all multiple meaning words. For each word, draw a picture that shows two different meanings, and write a sentence to describe it.</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>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 realistic fiction book. What lesson do the characters learn about life? Write a paragraph about this theme.</p>	<p>Use the letters in <i>Summer Reading Bingo Challenge</i> to make as many smaller words as you can.</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>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>Read two books by the same author. Draw a Venn diagram to show what is similar and what is different.</p> 