

Fostering a Love of Reading - I want to help, but it's in French!

A book was produced by the Government of Alberta in 2011 to inform and inspire parents of French Immersion students. This book is filled with a variety of tips, whys and wonders.

<https://education.alberta.ca/media/563591/yesyoucanhelp.pdf>

What is great about this book is the information can be used for all students.

The following are ideas from the book (page 26) ;

- encouraging creativity can be as simple as keeping a supply of paints, paper, glue and fabric scraps within easy reach, or keeping the cardboard box from the new fridge for a budding architect or carpenter to turn into a house, garage or puppet theatre;
- watching a television program together and then discussing it can help to develop analytical and debating skills;
- playing games of all kinds, at all ages (e.g. cards, dominoes, board games) can develop observation and reasoning skills, memory, vocabulary, spelling and math skills;
- discovering or problem-solving during a shopping trip (Where do oranges grow? Why must the meat be kept chilled?);
- belonging to a sports team or a club can develop cooperation and leadership skills; a summer vacation is a chance to learn about geography, history, and how to use a map;
- doing chores teaches responsibility and self-discipline

First-language development

A language-rich home prepares a child for, and supports, ongoing literacy development—in any language. Just a few suggestions:

- talk about words: words that sound funny, have more than one meaning, mean the same or are opposites, etc.;
- have fun with storytelling and make-believe play;
- use a lot of adjectives and adverbs, and encourage your child to use descriptors;
- ask open-ended questions (What's next? What if? What's happening? etc.);
- use starters that encourage conversation (I wonder ..., Tell me about ...);
- “think out loud” as you go about routine tasks; plan together, and then, after the activity or event, talk about what you've done;
- talk about feelings, and give your child words to help her describe how he or she feels

EOLR French Home Reading Help

We are currently working on getting many of our French Home Reading books video and audio taped to help parents of French Immersion students with Home Reading. We are trying to make it easier for you to help your child(ren). Stay tuned for more information coming at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.

Other resources

Visit or search on your local library

<http://sylvanlibrary.prl.ab.ca/>

Red Deer Public Library has a variety of ressources en Français

<https://www.rdpl.org/>

'So yes, you can help your French Immersion student'