

# Elementary

## ESL At-Home Resources



Online or screen time resources



Offline/no screen time resources

| Kindergarten and 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade  |
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| <p><a href="#">REACH</a> – English language development activities tied to National Geographic REACH textbooks</p> <p><a href="#">Wilbooks</a> – access free books, educational videos, poetry, and more</p> <p><a href="#">Storyline Online</a> – listen to actors read their favorite stories aloud</p> <p><a href="#">Digital Resources for Fort Bend ISD Elementary Students</a> – websites with texts, videos, and information about all content areas</p> <p><a href="#">Unite for Literacy</a> - students can read books online</p> <p><a href="#">Florida Center for Reading Research</a> – activities to promote early literacy skills</p> <p><a href="#">Abcya.com</a> – learning games for students</p> <p><a href="#">Fort Bend County Libraries</a> – The Fort Bend County Library system has a variety of on-line resources for families including digital book check-out and databases for research.</p> <p><a href="#">Helping Your Child Learn Each Content</a> – U.S. Department of Education provides booklets to give parents the skills to work with their students in each content area</p> | <p><a href="#">REACH</a> – English language development activities tied to National Geographic REACH textbooks</p> <p><a href="#">Wilbooks</a> – access free books, educational videos, poetry, and more</p> <p><a href="#">Storyline Online</a> – listen to actors read their favorite stories aloud</p> <p><a href="#">Digital Resources for Fort Bend ISD Elementary Students</a> – websites with texts, videos, and information about all content areas</p> <p><a href="#">Unite for Literacy</a> - students can read books online</p> <p><a href="#">Abcya.com</a> – learning games for students</p> <p><a href="#">Fort Bend County Libraries</a> – The Fort Bend County Library system has a variety of on-line resources for families including digital book check-out and databases for research.</p> <p><a href="#">Helping Your Child Learn Each Content</a> – U.S. Department of Education provides booklets to give parents the skills to work with their students in each content area</p> |

[Read Wonder Learn](#) - Kate Messner, author and former teacher, has created a collection of favorite authors and illustrators reading their books aloud

[Mo Willems Lunch Doodles](#) – Mo Willems, author of the fan-favorite Pigeon and Elephant & Piggie books, invites children to explore ways of writing and making.

MyON – e-books for independent reading. Accessed through 1Link.

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#### Additional Activities that Encourage English Language Development

- **Storytelling:** Tell stories to develop your child’s vocabulary and oral language skills. Encourage your child to add to stories or make up their own.
- **Describe Pictures:** Pictures can tell stories. Sit down with your child and describe photographs and the memories attached to them.
- **Say Rhymes and Sing Songs:** Rhymes, songs, and chants can develop oral language skills such as intonation and word stress.
- **Engage in Meaningful Conversation:** Whether at the dinner table or around the house, parents can ask children questions that require more than a simple yes or no answer. Talk with your child about things you see at home, in your neighborhood, at a park, or on television.
- **Watch Educational Children’s Programs:** Children's television programs can promote English language and literacy development. Try adding closed captions to the programs your child watches so that they can see and hear words in English. Ask your child to list the title, characters, setting, beginning, middle, and end of the program.
- **Read Bilingual Books:** Bilingual books are a great way for English learners, their parents, and family to enjoy books together. In addition, they can both improve their language skills along the way.
- **Daily Language Prompts:** You can build your child’s language skills using short prompts.
  - Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade**
    - Monday: Use objects in your house to invent something. Draw and label the parts.
    - Tuesday: What do you look like? Use a mirror to draw and label yourself.
    - Wednesday: Write a word that starts with every letter of the English alphabet.
    - Thursday: Pick two characters from a favorite television program or movie. Draw a cartoon of them meeting each other.
    - Friday: Read a book to a family member. Take turns retelling the story.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**
    - Monday: Write a letter to your teacher about what you did today. Use words like first, next, then, last, and finally.

- Tuesday: Find 30 objects in your home. Sort them into lists. Example: things that are red, things that are plastic, things that are magnetic.
- Wednesday: Think of two characters from two different stories. Write a story about what might happen if they met each other.
- Thursday: Think of someone you would like to interview. Write them a letter with your questions.
- Friday: Use the food in your house to create a menu with prices. Use them to write word problems.

**Additional Activities for English Language Arts and Reading**


**Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

- Encourage children to read daily from books they want to read, even if they appear too easy or difficult. Keep reading fun rather than a chore.
- Read a chapter book out-loud to your child of any age. You may want to share favorite books from your childhood.
- Encourage children to write daily about topics of their choice. Stapling a few pages together to make a “book” encourages creativity.
- Encourage children to read and talk about the books they are reading to a family member or stuffed animal/toy.
- Have children record themselves reading on a computer or phone.
- Have children keep a daily log of the learning activities they are doing each day, perhaps rating themselves or reflecting on how well they did, and setting goals for the next day.
- Have children keep a list of books read and write a phrase or sentence response about their reading (e.g. “This book made me laugh.”)
- Letter and sound learning - Use magnetic letters or paper squares with one letter printed on each (upper and lower case) for games and activities such as:
  - Making names (own, friends, family, etc.)
  - Matching letters to their name or other print in the home
  - Make simple words such as mom, cat, sun, and have the child make the same word
  - Alphabet train – put the letters in order

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- Encourage children to read daily from books they want to read, even if they appear too easy or difficult. Keep reading fun rather than a chore.
- Encourage children to write daily about topics of their choice.
- Read a chapter book out-loud to your child of any age. You may want to share favorite books from your childhood.
- Start a mini book club with your child. If you have one copy of a book, each read the chapter(s) on your own, then come together to talk about it.
- Have children record themselves reading on a computer or phone.
- Encourage children to research a topic in which they are interested. They may follow a simple research cycle of asking questions, finding resources, recording information, formulating new questions, putting the information together to share with an audience, and finally sharing their new learning with others. Students may choose to share their research in a variety of ways, such as digitally, making a poster, or writing a report.
- Have children keep a daily log of the learning activities they are doing each day, perhaps

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sort the letters by characteristics such as short, tall, tails, sticks, circles, etc.</li> <li>○ Match upper and lower case letters</li> <li>○ Rainbow letters – adult writes a letter “big” and the child traces over it repeatedly with different colors of crayons or markers</li> <li>○ Cut out different letters of the alphabet from magazines and newspaper, advertisements, etc. to make words, the alphabet, short messages, etc.</li> <li>○ Letter Bingo – make two cards with a grid of three boxes across and down for nine total boxes. Randomly write one lower case letter in each box. Put pieces of paper with all the letters in a bowl. Draw a letter from the bowl. If a player has the letter on the board, they say it and cover with a penny, bean, or other small object. The first to fill three boxes across, down or diagonal wins and yells “Bingo!”.</li> </ul> | <p>rating themselves or reflecting on how well they did, and setting goals for the next day.</p> |
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| Additional Resources   |   |
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| <p><a href="#">Microsoft Immersive Reader</a></p>  | <p>Microsoft Immersive Reader is a free tool that helps increase fluency and comprehension for English learners. It helps build confidence for emerging readers learning to read at higher levels. The Immersive Reader is offered in many languages, includes a picture dictionary, and can highlight parts of speech in different colors.</p> |
| <p><a href="#">Microsoft Translator</a></p> <p><a href="#">Supported Languages</a></p>  | <p>Microsoft Translator is a free, personal translation app that has the capability to translate text, voice, conversations, camera photos, and screenshots. It is available for 60+ languages and can be used online or offline. Available for download in the app store.</p>  |