

Encourage your child to explore nonfiction



As your child gets older, she will be expected to read a variety of nonfiction materials, including essays, biographies and news articles. This type of reading involves more complex thinking and requires a different approach. It's helpful to give your child some practice at home. Encourage nonfiction reading to:

- **Spark reading excitement.** If your child isn't excited about reading novels, she may be more interested in reading about the real world. If she enjoys one nonfiction book she reads, help her find more books on the same topic.
- **Introduce her to new kinds of writing,** such as how-to manuals or interviews. When your child has a writing assignment, suggest that she try using techniques she has noticed in her reading.



- **Assist with standardized test preparation.** Fiction and nonfiction passages are used in reading sections of exams, so it is helpful for your child to have experience reading both. To help your child think about nonfiction reading, ask questions like: "What did you learn from what you just read?" You can also connect reading to real life: "Let's look at the sky tonight and point out some of the constellations you learned about."