



# Suggestions for Parents

## **Early elementary grades (K-2):**

- Talk with your child frequently
- Read a variety of books; read often and talk with your child about the story
- Help your child focus on sound patterns of words such as those found in rhyming games
- Have your child retell stories and talk about events of the day
- Talk with your child during daily activities; give directions for your child to follow (e.g., making cookies)
- Talk about how things are alike and different
- Give your child reasons and opportunities to write

## **Later elementary grades (3-5):**

- Continue to encourage reading; find reading material that is of interest to your child
- Encourage your child to form opinions about what he or she hears or reads and relate what is read to experiences
- Help your child make connections between what is read and heard at school, at home, and in other daily activities.
- Talk aloud as you help your child understand and solve problems encountered in reading material
- Help your child recognize spelling patterns, such as beginnings and endings of words (e.g., *pre-* or *-ment*)
- Encourage your child to write letters, keep a diary, or write stories

## **Speech (all grades):**

- Model correct production of words using visual and verbal cueing.
- Encourage children to slow their rate of speech if the message is unclear to the listener.

Contact the Speech-Language Pathologist and/or teacher at your child's school if you have concerns about the development of your child's speech and/or language skills.