



25 **FUN** WAYS  
TO KEEP KIDS  
**READING & WRITING**  
THIS SUMMER

## TIP #1

### MAKE READING A GAME WITH BOOK BINGO.

You can adapt this to all different ages by changing what you put in the squares. Here is the one we use at our house.

**QUESTION:** Which square might be the most difficult for your child's age?

## TIP #2

### TAKE A TRIP TO THE LIBRARY

Sometimes just going to the library where they can choose their own books will inspire your kids to read something new.

**QUESTION:** Do you know the summer hours of the library closest to you?

## TIP #3

### HAVE AN ACCENT COMPETITION

Read books aloud to each other in different accents (British, hill-billy, Texan, Irish, Jamaican, etc.) There will be guaranteed laughs.

**QUESTION:** What accents do you think your kids can do?

## TIP #4

### WRITE A SENTENCE STORY

Begin a story by writing one sentence. Fold the paper over your sentence and pass to the next person to write the second sentence (without looking at the first). Keep passing the paper and writing sentences for 5 or 6 turns. Read the crazy stories aloud.

**QUESTION:** This tip is for children who can write. How could you adapt it to smaller kids?

## TIP #5

### TRADE BOOKS READ FOR CHORES

If your children have chores they particularly hate, offer get out of chores cards like these for every book they read.

**QUESTION:** What chore will your kids want to use this card for?

## TIP #6

### CHOOSE A WEEKLY THEME

Pick a fun theme and read books pertaining to that theme for the week. Possible themes: outer space, cowboys, snakes, princesses

**QUESTION:** What would some other good themes be?

## TIP #7

### FRESH FAIRY TALE

Read a well-known fairy tale together but change one important sentence and have your kids tell or write a new ending based on the change you made.

**QUESTION:** What sentence would you change in the Three Little Pigs?



## TIP #8

### WRITE LETTERS TO RELATIVES

Practice letter writing skills by writing letters to friends or relatives near or far away. Kids will love to receive letters back.

**QUESTION:** Who can your child write to?

## TIP #9

### WRITE A LETTER TO YOURSELF

Have your child picture themselves in 10 years and write that person a letter.

**QUESTION:** How old will your child be in 10 years and what things might they be doing then that your child could ask about in their letter?

## TIP #10

### CRAZIEST READING PLACE COMPETITION

Announce a competition to find the craziest place to read or the craziest position to read in. Participants take pictures of their crazy reading place. The winner gets to choose what to eat for dinner.

**QUESTION:** What ideas do you have for this one to get your kids started thinking?

## TIP #11

### SING A BOOK

Instead of reading aloud to each other, sing the words of a book to each other. My son would do this for his reading homework and it was a hoot.

**QUESTION:** Will you try to use a familiar tune or make up something as you go?

## TIP #12

### LIBRARY SCAVENGER HUNT

Take a trip to the library and complete this scavenger hunt. Leave your name and I will message you the link so you can print it at home.

**QUESTION:** What question will require you to help your child (or get help from the librarian?)

## TIP #13

### PILE OF QUESTIONS

Read a short story together and see who can write the most questions based on the story. Give a prize to the winner.

**QUESTION:** What questions would you have for the story of Cinderella?

## TIP #14

### PLAY BOOK DRESS UP

Dress like the characters of the story you are going to read.

**QUESTION:** What types of books would be easiest to dress like?

## TIP #15

### STORY GRAB

Write down random words on slips of paper. Have kids draw three out of the jar and write a short story that incorporates all the words.

**QUESTION:** What are some random words to get started?



## TIP #16

### TAKE TURNS

Take turns reading to each other. You can alternate by chapters or by page or by paragraph depending on the age of your child.

**QUESTION:** Do you think it is better to correct a child as they read or let mistakes go and focus on the fun of reading?

## TIP #17

### VIDEO STAR

Kids love to be on camera, so video record your child reading a storybook and send the video to a younger child you know.

**QUESTION:** What child might like a DVD or your child reading to them?

## TIP #18

### BOOK REPORT BUCKS

Allow your children to earn extra special privileges by writing book reports. Make sure to tailor your book report expectations to the age of your child. There are great examples online.

**QUESTION:** What extra privileges would motivate your child?

## TIP #19

### BE A BOOK DETECTIVE

Teach your children to skim by having them be book detectives and find every time certain words are written in the book.

**QUESTION:** What words would be good to find?

## TIP #20

### BOOKS AND NUMBERS

Count how many times a certain word is on a page or in a short book. You can also teach graphing by making a chart to show which words are used most frequently.

**QUESTION:** Look for words of a similar type like size, color, shape, emotions, character traits, etc. What suggestions do you have?

## TIP #21

### DRAW A PICTURE

Read a description of a person from a book and have your child draw a picture of the person based on the description.

**QUESTION:** What movie character did NOT look like you thought they would from the book's description?

## TIP #22

### CREATE A CHARACTER

Look at a picture of a person and have your child write a description of them based on the picture. This is the opposite of tip #21.

**QUESTION:** Who might be a good person to choose a picture of?

## TIP #23

### WRITE AN INSTRUCTIONAL MANUAL

Pretend your child has been hired to write a manual on how to do basic chores. Ask them to write step by step instructions on the process.

**QUESTION:** What task could your child write instructions for?



## TIP #24

### SPIN THE STORY

Sit in a circle with a bottle in the middle. Spin the bottle and whoever it points to has to read the next page or paragraph.

**QUESTION:** What are some benefits of reading stories together as a family instead of each person reading alone?

## TIP #25

### GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

Chaplain Publishing is offering a summer camp that starts on Monday. Children will learn how to write books in a fun and encouraging atmosphere. They will even get to read their book to an audience and see it in print!

Here are some comments from parents of kids who attended last year...

## TIP #25

# GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

## TESTIMONIAL

"The Summer Book Writing Boot Camp was AWESOME!!! After this experience, our son Isaiah (7) has been writing short stories with illustrations and I find them all over the house!!"

## TIP #25

# GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

## TESTIMONIAL

"I want to thank you for your help and encouragement for Keela as she fulfilled her dream of publishing her first book. She has been so inspired by the process that she is planning a sequel."

## TIP #25

# GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

## TESTIMONIAL

"Because of the writing camp last summer, I was able to improve my first draft of my book. Christi taught me how to take my original ideas and better them for the sake of the entire piece of writing. Thanks to Christi and the writing camp, I was able to publish my very first novel, something I had been dreaming of doing for years! Now my dream is a reality and is even continuing as I begin to write a sequel."

## TIP #25

# GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

## TESTIMONIAL

"We have LOVED book camp! My daughter is not really into sports, so this gives her an opportunity to go to a fun summer camp where she can improve at the things SHE is interested in!"

## TIP #25

### GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

Younger recruits will earn badges as they complete activities in each of the 8 sessions: genre, hero, villain, conflict, setting, plot, analysis, and chapter lists. They will:

Invent a hero and villain

Identify a crazy conflict

Develop a wacky plot line

Advise fellow recruits on their book

Publish their own book

## TIP #25

### GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

Teenage recruits will learn how to:

Create interesting & complex characters

Pace their story so readers keep turning pages

Weave subplots into the main story line

Rewrite based on feedback from readers

Navigate the waters of the publishing world



## TIP #25

### GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

Boot camp dates and times are July 14-17 and 21-24 from 10:00am-12:00pm at 3104 County Road 7520.

Kids who have completed first grade all the way through graduating Seniors are invited. You can get more information and sign up right now by using the following link

<http://www.chaplainpublishing.com/2014/03/14/book-writing-boot-camp/>

## TIP #25

### GO TO BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

Special Note: If you refer a friend who registers and pays for camp, then you will get a refund of \$25 on the first day of camp!

Please tell your friends about camp and have them sign their kids up ASAP. We will be starting on Monday morning, so there is no time to delay. Here is that link again [BOOK WRITING BOOT CAMP](#).

## TIP #25

### REGISTER FOR ONLINE BOOK WRITER'S BOOT CAMP

Many of you live too far away to actually come to Book Writer's Boot Camp or you will be out of town during camp, but you can preorder the online course. The kids will do all the fun things they would do at camp, but they can work on it whenever they are free. The course will be ready in September, but you can go ahead and preregister [HERE](#).