

# 'Tis the Season To Be Reading!

## 10 Tips on How To Make Reading Fun for Kids

Scholastic reading expert, Francie Alexander, has compiled the following tips that will keep kids and parents excited about reading for **Scholastic Read For 2005** and throughout the year!

1. **Give the Gift of Reading.** Books make great stocking stuffers and holiday gifts for kids. Kids can get into the holiday spirit by going through their old books and donating them to a school, local library, or charity. Books are gifts that keep on giving!
2. **Make a Read For 2005 Reading List (And Check It Twice!).** Keep children engaged in reading all year long. Children should be encouraged to make reading lists of all the books they want to read for the upcoming year. See how many they can read by Read For 2006!
3. **Get Cooking!** Bake holiday cookies and other goodies this holiday season with your children while encouraging them to read each recipe and follow the steps. This is a wonderful opportunity to read and a great activity parents and kids can do together.
4. **Books Make Great Travel Companions.** For any excursion - short or long - books are the perfect travel accessories. Books on tape or CD are also a great way to take advantage of time. Whether you're on a plane or train, in a car or boat, kids will be turning "Are we there yet?" into "We're here already?!"
5. **Keep Reading FUN!** Allow children to choose books that interest them. Help by suggesting books and magazines that complement children's interests such as sports, crafts, humor, or science.
6. **Trading Spaces.** Designate a special place to keep children's books within kids' reach, such as a home library or reading corners in different rooms throughout the house. Keep a vast selection of books readily available and update titles often.
7. **Encourage Your Child to Read Everything.** Whether it's the back of a cereal box or a sign on the street, the menu at a restaurant or a local newspaper, expose your child to words so he becomes a better reader.
8. **"Play" Time.** Have your child select a book and have him act it out with you as if it were a play. This will encourage your child to read, use his imagination, and show him how a story can be interpreted in a variety of ways.
9. **Create Your Own Book.** Give a child a specific topic or theme to write his own book. Making books fosters creativity and children can use their own individual style and flair to create stories that are uniquely theirs.
10. **Seasons Readings.** When a holiday is just around the corner, make a special trip to the library and take out books that relate to what you and your family are celebrating. This also creates an opportunity to talk about holiday traditions with your child and to explain why you light the Chanukah candles or why you decorate the Christmas tree.

More reading tips are available at <http://www.scholastic.com/ReadFor2005>



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