

10 Tips to Help Kids Around the World Connect Through Reading!

Scholastic has compiled the following tips to keep kids and parents excited about reading for **Scholastic Read For 2006**, plus help kids connect with one another through reading:

1. **Check Out Books About Other Countries** - Head to your local library and select books about other countries and cultures. From travel guides to cookbooks, reading about cultures and traditions throughout the world will help your child learn about people of different nationalities, ethnicities, and backgrounds.
2. **Get Cooking!** - Whether you're baking goodies or exploring international cuisines, this holiday season is a great opportunity to bond with your children by learning about the tasty treats other families enjoy all across the world. It's more than just cooking – it's about reading and sharing history, recipes, and traditions with the next generation.
3. **Hot Off the Press!** - Read the newspaper with your child and talk to him about what is happening in the world. This will expand his range of knowledge as he learns about his nation and the world.
4. **Books Make Great Travel Companions** - For any excursion -- short or long -- books make the perfect travel accessories. Whether you're on a plane or train, in a car or boat, books on tape or CD are a great way to learn about other places – and pass the time.
5. **Monkey See, Monkey Do** - Show your child that you're a reader who enjoys reading about other people, places, and things. Designate a special place to keep children's books within your child's reach, like a home library or a few reading corners in different rooms throughout the house.
6. **Take It on the Road** - Use your family holiday vacation as an opportunity for exploration! Plan a trip around your child's favorite book or read a book about her favorite travel destinations – this will help foster reading interest and learning about the world!
7. **Season's Readings** - When a holiday is just around the corner, make a special trip to the library and take out books that relate to the event your family is celebrating. This 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.

8. **Plan an Around-the-World Party** - Have your child select a single volume from an encyclopedia set and choose a country from it. Ask him to research some information about the games people of that country play, things they do, food they eat, and more. Then, plan an activity at home around it!
9. **Stories to Share** - Bring your family together with celebrated tales that appeal to all ages. You can take turns reading chapters from fantastic classics, teaching younger generations about their cultural heritage through folktales, or letting metaphorical tales and allegories inspire discussions of morals and values.
10. **Make a Read For 2006 Reading List (And Check It Twice!)** - Keep children engaged in reading all year long. Encourage them 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!

Reading Tips and Booklists are available at www.scholastic.com/ReadFor2006