



TUTOR READING IDEAS

BEFORE READING:

- Show the cover of the book to the student. Let them touch and feel the book.
- Encourage predictions of the book's content.
- Discuss the book's author and illustrator. Perhaps you have enjoyed books by this author.
- Allow the student to discuss their own experiences that are related to those in the book.
- Discuss what type of story it is (folk tale, fable, fantasy, fiction, non fiction).
- Help the student predict who the characters will be and what the setting will be in the story.

Develop a reading log. The student writes the title, author, pages and date of each book they read. It gives them a wonderful feeling of accomplishment.

Reading Journal. After reading a section of the book, have the student write a journal entry. The tutor can have set questions each time such as: What was your favorite part? What would you have done? Who was the best character? What do you think will happen next? For younger children you can have them draw a picture of their favorite part.

Partner read with the student. You read a page and then they read a page. This is important practice for students who need to hear a good reader to model after. It is fun too!

Read to the student. Make time to read at each session. Again, they need to hear a good reader.

Student reads to a younger child. Help the student practice a book so they can read to a younger child. It is so important for them to see themselves as good readers.

Read a variety of materials. Read things other than books. Try magazines, letters, comics, poems, newspapers, etc.

TUTOR WRITING IDEAS

- Instead of talking about the weekend, write back and forth to each other on the same piece of paper. Write for a purpose and read for a purpose!
- Have the student make his or her own stationary, envelope or post card.
- Help the student write a letter to a friend, grandparent or other relative and actually mail them!
- Teach them how to address an envelope.
- Have them start a journal or diary. Start off small and any words they don't know you can write for them. Make a list of those words to review later. This should be fun, they need to see that writing has a purpose, is personal and fun.
- Write stories. Children often have trouble thinking about what to write. So, read books for ideas, or have a conversation about something they like, or something funny that happened to them. The stories don't have to be long, but help them make illustrations and a cover like a real book!
- Reluctant writers can draw pictures and then write sentences about them.
- Write poetry.
- To help with high frequency words and personal words, make a mini "word wall" with a file folder. Open it up and draw squares on the folder. Difficult or high frequency words can be written in squares as they come up. Help the student regularly review these new words.
- Tie math to writing by writing math word problems.
- Encourage the use of references and resources to write the stories.
- Value a student's illustrations.
- Help them double check their writing. Encourage the student to reread what they wrote.
- Encourage the student to take risks and try something new in their writing.
- Don't insist that everything be perfect all at once. Writing is a process.

