Literacy

Reading is Fundamental (RIF) Literacy Toolkit

Supporting Reading Growth At Home

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) Literacy Central has created a variety of tools to help families foster a passion for reading and the foundation for a lifetime of learning. One tool, the Literacy Tracker, was developed to help families who want to support reading growth at home. The tool provides families with an assessment of the reading level of their readers and keeps track of reading progress. The tool is designed to help readers who are at a minimum reading level of first grade and a maximum reading level of eighth grade. ***The Literacy Tracker is not designed for beginning readers or to diagnose reading deficits.***

Getting Started

Parents will need an account with RIF to get started.
- ❖ Create an account at *Literacy Network | RIF.org*
- ❖ Click on the Tools menu and select Literacy Tracker
  - ○ Or select this link: *Literacy Tracker | RIF.org*
- ❖ For a detailed overview, parents can download the *Literacy Tracker User Guide* or view the *Tutorial Video*.

Once the account is set up, follow the prompts to:
- ❖ Create a reading group
- ❖ Add each reader in the family (reading at reading levels grades 1-8)
- ❖ Invite each reader to the reading group
  - ○ Readers will be given a login ID and password.
  - ○ Readers will be able to select an area of interest for the timed assessment and after the High Interest Reading Challenge is complete will be given a suggested reading list.

The Formative Assessment

The formative assessment is a timed passage, based on the reader's interests and includes:
- ❖ High Interest Reading Challenge
- ❖ An interactive feature for the reader to identify vocabulary words new to them
- ❖ Comprehension questions that are scored
- ❖ A summary of the reading level, new vocabulary, reading fluency (words/minute)
- ❖ Recommended list of books from Literacy Central based on the student's interest and reading score

The Parents' Place of Maryland • 802 Cromwell Park Drive • Suite H • Glen Burnie MD 21061
Phone 410-768-9100 • Fax 410-768-0830 • ppmd.org/contact • www.ppmd.org

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The Tracker (Tracking Progress)

The tracking tool will give parents and teachers a report and graph of reader results including:
- ❖ Reading level
- ❖ Vocabulary new to the reader
- ❖ Comprehension (based on the number of correct answers)
- ❖ Fluency reading speed (words read per minute)

Note: It is recommended that reader progress be assessed every two (2) weeks. Reminders on a calendar or monthly planner can keep this tracking period top of mind. Click here for more ideas: Calendars | RIF.org.

Additional Tools

In addition to the Literacy Tracker, parents can find other tools to help foster a passion for reading and set the foundation for a love for learning at: *Literacy Central | RIF.org*
- ❖ *Literacy Central | RIF.org* - the Literacy Central digital library has resources including tips, books readers love, puzzles, and worksheets (select the parents' resources from the link provided).
- ❖ *Puzzle Creator | RIF.org* - the Puzzle Creator is a tool that creates engaging hands-on activities adding fun while reinforcing reading vocabulary.
- ❖ *Read With Skybrary | RIF.org* - the Skybrary is a magical place that take readers on an adventure. There are thousands of ebooks to pick from and kids get the first month free!
- ❖ *BeeLine Reader Collection | RIF.org*– the Beeline Reader assists readers with visual tracking so readers can focus on understanding the texts.

Family Fun Time

Family fun time is a great way to inspire a love for reading and a lifetime of learning by:
- ❖ Going to the library
- ❖ Exploring local and global cultures/events/exhibits including museums like the Smithsonian
- ❖ Turning family movie time into movie time plus! by adding conversations before and after the movie. Click here for ideas on before/after conversations: *Graphic Organizers | RIF.org*
  - o Some conversation starters: Ask each family member:
    - ▪ Which character is most like you?
    - ▪ What makes them most like you?
    - ▪ What other characters do you relate to? Why?
    - ▪ Any questions, thoughts? Anything new? What would you like to learn more about? What can we do to help out in our community?
- ❖ Including student interests and new vocabulary in family game night (from the tool)
- ❖ Having the readers read to the family and/or discuss favorite characters and events from books
- ❖ Including student interests in reading, movies and in family conversations

Source
- ➢ Adapted from Literacy Tracker | RIF.org