



Dear Parents

The Western Cape Education Department delivered more than two million books to schools in the province this year to support your child's education. Most of these are reading books to help children in primary school to practise their reading.

There are many things you can do at home to help build your child's reading, writing and maths skills. Here are some examples, for children in Grades R to 3.

Reading and writing

- Join your local library, and visit it regularly. Reading is fun for the whole family. Ask your child to read to you.
- Read nursery rhymes to younger children, and let your child play with rhyming words. "I spy with my little eye" is a fun word game for the whole family.
- Chat to your child about what they are reading. Share family stories. Invite grandparents and caregivers to share their stories and to chat with your child.
- Ask children to read signs and labels. Encourage your child to draw and write on their own. Encourage your child to write thank-you notes to grandparents and draw up shopping lists.
- Encourage your children to bring their textbooks and readers home from school and ask them to explain what they have learnt or read that day.

Maths

- Encourage your child to help in the kitchen when you cook or bake. Ask your child to measure out quarter, half and three-quarter cups of flour or sugar.
- Cut sandwiches into shapes. Triangles and squares will do. Sort them into pairs.
- When shopping, allow your child to pay for the groceries and to check the change.
- Number games can be fun for the whole family. Ask your child to sort cards by number, colour and shape, and to invent games using numbers and patterns. Use the numbers to add, subtract, multiply and divide.

Please ask your school or visit our website for more information on what your child needs to learn and how you can help at home. See "Tips for Parents" on the web at wced.school.za.

Let's make education BETTER TOGETHER!

Kind regards

Donald Grant
Education Minister, Western Cape