

Family support boosts learning, and Lexia is here to help. Try these fun games and activities to reinforce and build your growing reader's literacy skills from home.



### Act It Out

Help your growing reader develop compare and contrast strategies by playing charades. Talk about categories, like animals or sports. Work together to brainstorm what's the same and different from category to category, as well as what belongs and doesn't belong. Then, act out objects or items from each category.

Like this activity? Make the game even more challenging by narrowing the categories: ocean animals, insects, or pets.



### Art Studio

*Goldfish. Pancake. Football.* What do these words have in common? They're all compound words made up of two smaller words.

To boost vocabulary, talk about the meaning of each small word and then the meaning of the compound word. Have your growing reader use the words in different sentences.

Then, try this fun activity. Have them draw the two smaller words (gold, fish) before drawing a picture of the compound word (goldfish).

butterfly	flagpole	rainbow
cartwheel	hotdog	starfish
earring	milkshake	sunflower
firefly	pigpen	timeline



### Word Play

Paper chains for word learning? Yes! A word chain is a set of words that change by one sound at a time. Word necklaces go one step further. They start and end with the same word. Here's an example:

**cat → cast → cost → lost → last → fast → fat → cat**

Have your growing reader write word chains on interlocking loops of paper to create a necklace of words. Here are some other word chains to keep the fun going:

**spot → pot → plot → lot → lost → list → last → past → post → pot → spot**

**bake → cake → take → lake → lane → line → like → bike → bake**

Next, challenge kids to think of their own word necklaces or to make the longest chain they can, adding new words every day!



## Scavenger Hunt

*Sturdy. Rough. Curved.* Encourage your growing reader to use describing words like these – called adjectives – to help them focus on details and develop a rich vocabulary. Here’s a fun activity to get started.

Talk about what each word means, have your reader use it in a sentence, and brainstorm related words together. Then, send them on a scavenger hunt for items that fit each description!

Next time you read together, point out these and other describing words. Write them down, use them daily, and try more scavenger hunts!

unusual	straight	short
lumpy	clear	fresh
wooden	striped	colorful
fancy	silky	rubbery



## Go Fish

Some letter pairs – *sh, ch, th,* and *ck* – make one sound when they team up. These are called digraphs. Boost your reader’s success with digraphs by making pairs of word cards together. Start with one syllable words, like *rush, chop, thin,* and *back.*

Then, shuffle the cards, and play Go Fish! Urge players to use the word in a sentence after collecting a matching pair. Keep the game interesting by adding new words each time you play.



## Photo Booth

Build your growing reader’s understanding of story structure with this photo-taking project. Talk about a familiar story, pointing out that it has a beginning, middle, and end.

Then, have kids use toys or objects in nature to tell a story of their own. They should take three photos to show the beginning, the middle, and the end.

As you look at the pictures together, ask about each part of the story. Reinforce this learning by talking about beginning, middle, and end the next time you read together.



## Get Moving

Exercise for mind and body! Write simple sight words – *some, any, know, give,* and *every* – on the ground with chalk. Have your growing reader jump to each word and read it aloud. Bonus points for using the word in a sentence!

If this activity is a hit, try it with these sight words next time:

could	have	your
once	again	been
of	does	walk
from	friend	why
were	why	which
live	says	many
put	very	would