**Using Technology to Support Literacy Development**

***Sites to Visit for Information:***

Readingrockets.org - **Reading Rockets** offers a wealth of reading strategies, lessons, and activities designed to help young children learn how to read and read better. Our reading resources assist parents, teachers, and other educators in helping struggling readers build fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills.

Scholastic.com/parents – Search for books, find book levels, play interactive games, subscribe to Scholastic News Online (free!), and many other resources for reading.

PBS.org/parents/readinglanguage/ - Learn how children become readers and writers and how YOU can help them develop by talking, reading, and writing together every day.

<http://ed.gov/parents/read/resources/readingtips/index.html> - US Department of Education site includes resources on how to help create strong readers.

<http://reading.org/InformationFor/Parents.aspx> - IRA resources are available to help parents as they take on their critical role as their children’s first and most important teachers

***Free Sites to Visit for Games/Resources:***

<http://www.starfall.com/-> A free site designed to teach children to read with phonics. Contains entertaining and fun practice with phonemic awareness, phonics, and story reading.

[www.rif.org](http://www.rif.org) – **Leading to Reading**, Ages 3-5: free educational resource designed to help parents and caregivers develop the language skills of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. RIF's fun and interactive site offers stories, games, music, and other engaging activities for adults to experience together with young children.

**Reading Planet**, aimed at children ages 5 to 15, is updated weekly to offer an interactive community that encourages and supports reading and writing. Through the site, kids of all ages can join the free RIF Reading Planet Club; design their own homepage; and find writing contests, reading games, activities and booklists

**Let’s Read as a Family** is RIF’s bilingual website for families to read, sing, and share stories together at home

[www.roythezebra.com](http://www.roythezebra.com) - The site is home to a package of interactive games, stories and resources that have been developed to help emerging readers learn to read. The site can be used at school or at home. It's one of the most comprehensive interactive literacy resources on the net that is freely accessible... no area of the site is password protected.

[www.storytimeforme.com](http://www.storytimeforme.com) – “Our mission is to instill in children a love of reading and creative thinking by providing an interactive alternative to TV viewing and video gaming that makes reading fun.  Our free online book library is not designed to take away from traditional reading, rather it is to replace the time kids are spending watching TV and playing video games.”

***Apps for Smartphones /IPad/Ipod touch:***

PreK-1:

Phonics vowels (Abitalk) – Practice reading and making words in the same word family (ie: -at, -it, -ot). Fun, interactive, and FREE!

Read me Stories (8interactive limited) – Follow along with colorful, engaging, informative stories. A new story choice appears each day. Some of the stories have adorable songs.

Learn to Read Books (Visions) – Leveled books on your phone! Each story begins with an interactive sight word display (touch and hear the word spoken). When reading the story, your child can touch each word to hear it spoken.

Sight word touch – FREE practice with sight words.

2nd and up:

K12 Timed reading practice - $1.99: Practice reading rate with leveled stories. Computer keeps your score.

Young reader - $4.99: Over one-hundred classic children’s books. Also has a timed reading feature.

Grammar Jammers - $2.99 per level: View entertaining videos about each part of speech then practice using the skills.

My SAT PrepPal - $2.99 (although there is a free lite version): Study Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes in a fun, interactive way with this app. As you learn new vocabulary, you advance in grade level.

Minimod Reading for Details - $3.99: Leveled reading from 2-7th grade. Read short passages and answer comprehension questions.