# Going to Elementary School in British Columbia







# How is Elementary School in BC the Same/Different than other Education Systems?





## **Education Systems**

Overseas and in some of BC



In many areas of BC



## What is the BEST School for my child?

- the school in your neighbourhood
- right everyone goes to school together





# Student placement is usually based on age For the 2019-2020 school year:

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2014

2013

2012

2011

2010

2009

2008

2007

#### <u>Placement</u>

Kindergarten

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

# When can my child move up to the next grade?

- children move from grade to grade based on age, not ability
- Children who need more time to learn curriculum still move to the next grade level with other children the same age
- teachers are trained to support learning for each child as an individual
- resource teachers also provide additional support for students

# How is learning in BC school's the same/different from schools in other countries?

- Learning takes place in many ways:
  - work done alone
  - group or pair work in class
  - activities completed outside of school-alone or with others
  - field studies/field trips
  - written work
  - oral work
  - hands-on activities
  - play-individually or in groups



## Kindergarten

- > full day program
- focus on play-based learning
- > learning focus on social skills and basic concepts





## Grades 1-3 (Primary)

- theme based learning using many resources [not just textbooks]
- building oral language and vocabulary [30-60%]
- > students usually have only one 'homeroom teacher'
- > focus on personal development in five areas:
  - intellectual
    - physical
      - social
        - artistic
          - emotional



## Grades 4-7 (Intermediate)

- > students usually have more than one teacher
- beginning to use textbooks but not sole sources of information
- > greater focus on reading and writing skills
- > oral language and group work still very important
- > students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning and conduct





# Why are some students in a class with two grades and others are not?

- There are class size limits in Vancouver, unlike schools abroad
- When there are insufficient students to fill a class, students from two grades may be combined to reduce cost to the district (this occurs most frequently in elementary schools)
- Some programs purposely create multi-age classes for various educational reasons
- a combined or split class is made up of students from two grades, with one teacher teaching both curricula
- students in combined classes are not held back as the prescribed learning outcomes are grade appropriate for all students

### **Please Note**

- All classes (single grade and combined grades) have a range of students at varying developmental stages, abilities and skills
  - Teachers recognize and respond to individual student's needs, interests and abilities (differentiated instruction and learning)







### What are the Benefits in a Combined Class?

- > Students gain leadership and mentoring skills while developing their confidence (leaders/role models)
- > Encourages friendships across grade levels and increases social behaviour
- Encourages and develops a sense of responsibility and positive attitudes
- > Allows for a broader range of experiences







# Students with Special Needs

The Vancouver School Board is committed to providing an inclusive environment for ALL students.

The profiles of students with special needs are reviewed by staff from the VSB's Learning Services. Examples of supports include:

- Resource Teacher
- ☐ Student Support Workers (para-professional)
- Consultation from Learning Services staff
- Special Education Program Placement

Individualized Education Plans are developed in consultation with parents. These plans include goals and objectives that reflect the child's needs. Specific strategies/interventions are identified, as well as ways to measure progress.

School staff encourage the involvement of parents in the decision making process on how best to support students with special needs.

# Homework Will my child have homework? What is the purpose of homework? How much will there be?

- Homework has many purposes including to:
  - get ready for new learning the next day
  - practise and strengthen understanding of what has been learned
  - increase fluency (reading and writing)
  - increase vocabulary knowledge
  - practise working on tasks both independently and in groups

### **Homework**

- Some examples of homework include:
  - completing assigned class work
  - reading silently or aloud
  - watching a specific program on TV or the internet to gain more information about a topic under study
  - writing tasks
  - working with classmates on a project
  - gathering information from various sources such as the library, and internet





### **Homework**

## Ministry of **Education**



- The Ministry of Education sets limits as to how much homework a child should be assigned each day
- these limits are related to the age of the child



# Will my child receive help with his/her English?

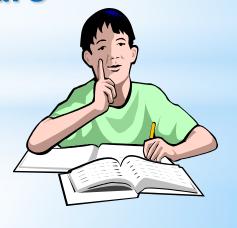
- > ALL students are enrolled in grade/age level classes
- IF English language support is needed, it is given as:
  - small group focus work [outside of class]
  - in-class support
  - other variations depending on school/student needs
- amount of support given varies and depends on individual student needs
- The ELL resource teacher and the classroom teacher will work together to develop an appropriate program for your child

- it may take up to 2 years to learn basic English communication skills
- > it may take many years to become academically proficient in another language
- it can take up to seven years to learn the language of textbooks

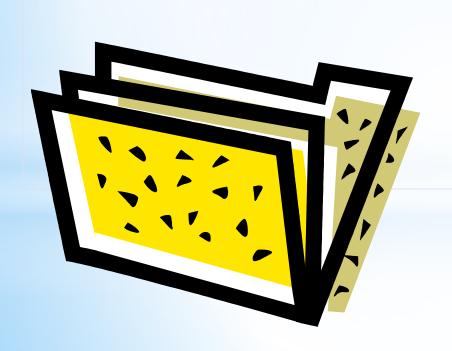




7 Years



# How Do Teachers Determine What Level Of English My Child is at?





#### ELL Matrices (Kindergarten – Grade 1) Levels of Progress Toward Language Acquisition

			SIS:(if applicable)	School: Date:
	LEVEL 1 (Emerging / Beginning)	LEVEL 2 (Developing)	LEVEL 3 (Expanding)	LEVEL 4 (Consolidating)
istening	understands little English     understanding requires repetition, visual cues, and processing time     begins to follow other students in class routines     limited listening skills	has difficulty understanding classroom lessons     understands simple words and phrases with repetition, wait times and/or visual cues     follows one direction at a time if given slowly and with gestures/cues     developing listening skills	understands classroom lessons and discussions with support     understands several simple sentences in a conversation with repetition and some wait time     understands simple directions with repetition and visual cues	understands academiclessons     with visual cues and vocabulary     support      understands peers' social     conversation with minimal wait time      follows a series of directions in a     familiar context      is able to listen and add to group     discussions
Speaking	<ol> <li>may be silent</li> <li>begins to follow established daily routine with guidance</li> <li>speaks mostly in home language</li> <li>relies on body language and visual cues to communicate</li> <li>responds to repeated/cued questions with gestures or other body language</li> <li>frequently repeats what others say</li> <li>requires significant wait time to formulate a minimal response</li> <li>may not be able to pronounce many English sounds</li> <li>low voice volume</li> <li>may not enunciate clearly</li> </ol>	responds to routine, common greetings     actively participates in established daily routine     participates in choral speaking     uses a limited vocabulary of functional and concrete words     responds to questions with a few words, after an extended wait time     expresses basic needs     has fragmented speech     pronunciation often interferes with being understood     developing voice volume     enunciation developing	starts to take part in social conversations     begins to participate in structured oral lessons with teacher support, and begins to contribute in discussions     begins to retell stories and recount events, with support     uses a limited vocabulary of functional and commonly used words     asks questions, but has problems with word order     begins to express basic feelings     speaks hesitantly, rephrasing or searching for words     pronunciation sometimes interferes with being understood     speech contains many grammatical errors	engages in social conversation with peers and teachers     participates in class discussion, with teacher guidance     retells stories, recounts events, and composes own stories     begins to use a wider range of vocabulary     begins to ask questions for clarification and understanding     begins to express opinions and ideas     speech hesitations do not interfere with communication     pronunciation rarely interferes with being understood     clear voice volume     clear enunciation
			<ol><li>enunciation expanding</li></ol>	

School Year	CT / RT Initials	<u>Code</u>	<u>Date</u>

	LEVEL 1 (Emerging / Beginning)	LEVEL 2 (Developing)	LEVEL 3 (Expanding)	LEVEL 4 (Consolidating)
Reading	shows awareness of howbooks work: front to back sequence, left to right direction of print     - recognizes some alphabet letters and numbers     - sings/says the alphabet     relates oral language to print (knows that print language represents meaning)     shows awareness of environmental symbols and signs     actively listens to stories read aloud	1. recites familiar pattern books from memory 2 recognizes all alphabet letters - upper case ulower case - (K) recognizes numbers from 1 (Gr 1) recognizes numbers from 1  3 matches initial consonant sounds and letters in familiar words - begins to recognize high frequency words  4. uses picture cues to retell story events 5. participates in choral reading	independently reads and understands very simple pattern books     recognizes some sound/letter relationships     begins to sound out words     recognizes some high frequency words     begins to develop some strategies to assist comprehension     begins to read aloud	reads and understands a variety of easy books at/near grade level     uses phonics to sound out words     - recognizes and sounds out a growing number of words     recognizes many high frequency words     uses some strategies to read independently     reads aloud with near grade level fluency
Writing	attempts to make letters or letter-like forms     copies from a model     relies on drawings or other visuals to convey meaning     demonstrates awareness of left to right convention when copying     has few vocabulary words	begins to write a letter to represent a word based on letter sounds     copies letters, numbers, words or phrases independently     begins to label own drawings     combines drawing and printing to create a story; the drawing conveys most of the meaning     uses limited or repetitious vocabulary     begins to be aware of writing conventions (capitalization, punctuation)     begins to put spaces between words	begins to spell words phonetically using more letters to represent each word     spells some highfrequency words     begins to write simple sentences, may have difficulty with word order, omits words or word endings; run-on sentences are common     combines drawing and printing; both support the meaning     may use some specialized vocabulary     usually uses sequence to organize writing; frequent use of "and", "but", "then"      begins to develop story elements (plot, character, setting)	<ol> <li>uses phonetic spelling</li> <li>spells word families (e.g., cat, hat)</li> <li>begins to use a limited variety of sentences with some errors</li> <li>combines drawing and printing; the printing conveys most of the meaning</li> <li>uses vocabulary that is appropriate to purpose but is sometimes awkward (meaning, style)</li> <li>ideas are related, logically connected and sequenced; is generally able to present a main idea with supporting detail</li> <li>able to complete writing frames (e.g., letter, story, journal)</li> <li>demonstrates some editing and proofreading skills (writing checklist)</li> <li>makes fewer mechanical errors; the errors seldom detract from meaning</li> </ol>
	<u>S</u>	School Year CT / RT Initials	Code Date	

#### ELL Matrices (Grades 2 - 7)

Name:		_ School:	
SIS:		Date:	
	(if applicable)		_

	LEVEL 1 (Emerging / Beginning)	LEVEL 2 (Developing)	LEVEL 3 (Expanding)	LEVEL 4 (Consolidating)
Listening	understands little English     understanding requires repetition, visual cues, and processing time     begins to follow other students in class routines     comprehends parts of lessons that include extensive visual and oral support     limited listening skills	understands simple sentences in a conversation, but requires repetition     requires less wait time and repetition before responding     follows simple directions with prompts and repetition     understands short or allessons that include visual support     developing listening skills	understands more complex sentences with repetition and rephrasing     takes little wait time to respond     follows a series of directions with prompts     understands grade level lessons with support     expanding listening skills	understands more complex sentences, with minimal support     rarely takes wait time to respond     successfully follows directions at grade level, most of the time     understands content of grade level academic lessons with minimal teacher guidance     is able to listen and add to group discussions
Speaking	begins to name concrete and functional objects     expresses basic needs     begins to respond to questions with yes/no, or with one or two words     speaks little or no English     pronunciation interferes with being understood     low voice volume     may not enunciate clearly	vocabulary offunctional words is growing     begins to take part in social conversations and some class lessons     asks and answers simple questions     speaks hesitantly, rephrasing and searching for words     pronunciation can interfere with being understood     compensates for limited vocabulary by using known vocabulary and/or awkward wording     grammar errors frequently interfere with communication     developing voice volume     enunciation developing	uses growing vocabulary with some errors in usage     participates hesitantly in classroom discussions, with teacher guidance     is usually able to ask questions for clarification     speaks with some hesitations     pronunciation sometimes interferes with meaning     sometimes uses awkward wording     grammar errors sometimes interfere with communication     expanding voice volume     enunciation expanding	uses social and content specific vocabulary, with support, at grade level     participates hesitantly in social conversations and small group discussions     is able to ask questions for clarification     rarely hesitates when speaking     occasionally makes pronunciation errors, but they do not interfere with meaning     rarely uses awkward wording     grammar errors do not interfere with communication     clear voice volume     clear enunciation

School Year	CT / RT Initials	<u>Code</u>	<u>Date</u>
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	LEVEL 1 (Emerging / Beginning)	LEVEL 2 (Developing)	LEVEL 3 (Expanding)	LEVEL 4 (Consolidating)		
Reading	recognizes letters and numbers     begins to use phonics to sound out simple words     begins to recognize a few high-frequency sight words     attempts to read by using pictures to support meaning     participates in choral reading but has little understanding	oral reading demonstrates use of some decoding skills     has a growing vocabulary of sight words     is beginning to use reading strategies to assist comprehension     reads familiar and patterned material	uses decoding skills and a variety of reading strategies, with teacher guidance     has acquired <u>basic</u> sight vocabulary for grade level     reads and understands easy fiction     reads and understands simple contentarea material	with assistance, uses varied reading strategies to aid understanding     has acquired most gradelevel sight vocabulary     reads and understands most fiction at/near gradelevel, with support     reads and understands non-fiction near grade level, with support     requires support to read, interpret and evaluate a variety of reading material     is increasingly able to find details in texts at/near grade level		
Writing	relies on drawings and labels to convey meaning     — can copy alphabet letters or words     - can copy pattern sentences     begins to use invented spelling based on letter sounds     uses repetitious and limited vocabulary     produces limited output     intended meaning of unsupported writing is often unclear	writes simple sentences with limited variation in verb tense     uses conventional spelling for commonly used words     compensates for limited vocabulary by using circumlocutions     writing exercises require extratime     begins to apply rules of writing and grammar, with many errors     writing contains sentence fragments, run-ons     begins to organize and sequence ideas, with teacher guidance	begins to use a variety of sentence structures appropriate for gradelevel, with some errors     is learning to use rules of spelling     uses more varied vocabulary     often needs extra time to write tests and assignments     – applies rules of writing and grammar taught in class, with fewer errors - sometimes uses awkward wording     can organize and develop ideas with teacher guidance	uses a variety of sentence structures, with some errors     has learned most of the rules of spelling at/near grade level     vocabulary is at/near grade level expectation     rarely needs extended time for written assignments     – applies rules of writingand grammar; errors do not detract from meaning     - seldom uses awkward wording     begins to write more clearly with some organization		

<u>School Year</u>	CT / RT Initials	<u>Code</u>	<u>Date</u>

## How do the teachers decide how well my child is learning? Will my child receive letter grades? How are the letter grades determined?

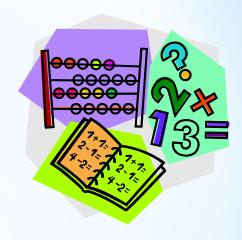
- > students receive Progress Reports 3 times per school year
- > letter grades are not given to everyone in the elementary grades
- > no letter grades are given to children in grades K-3
- > letter grades are given to students in grades 4-7
- > some students do not receive letter grades
  - students with weak English skills
  - students with learning needs



REPURT

## Letter grades may be based on many different types of student work:

- classroom participation
- > daily class tasks and assignments
- > informal quizzes
- > formal tests
- > student work samples
- projects
- > homework
- group work





#### REPORT INSERT – ELL (Grades 2-7): Levels of Progress Toward English Language Acquisition (English Version)

Students Name :			School Year :					Support Times per Week ELL Reception		
ELL Resource Teach	ner :		Grade: Division : 1	st	<b>2</b> <sup>nd</sup> :	3 <sup>rd</sup> R€	eport	ELC (Centr In-Class		
Emerging / Beginni Developing: Expanding: Consolidating:	Student can communicate ide Student is approaching grade-	unic as ir	cate in simple English with frequ n English with errors in grammar el proficiency in English (receives	(red	eives ne hel	some   p)	help)		ot o	
	LEVEL 1 (Emerging / Beginning)		LEVEL 2 (Developing)				Expandir			LEVEL 4 (Consolidating)
* Students for whom none of the descriptors apply are at pre-emergent level. This progress report is not applicable	<ol> <li>understands little English</li> <li>understanding requires repetition, visual cues, and extensive processing time</li> <li>begins to follow other students in class routines</li> <li>comprehends parts of lessons</li> </ol>	2.	understands simple sentences in a conversation, but requires repetition requires less wait time and repetition before responding follows simple directions with prompts and repetition understands short oral lessons	3.	sente rephi takes respo follow with unde	ences warasing solittle vond ws a serompterstands	s more convith repeti wait time t ries of directs ts s grade levensupport	tion and to ections	2. 3.	understands more complex sentences, with minimal support rarely takes wait time to respond successfully follows directions at grade level, most of the time understands content of grade level academic lessons with minimal teacher guidance
Speaking	<ol> <li>begins to name concrete and functional objects</li> <li>expresses basic needs</li> <li>begins to respond to questions with yes/no, or with one or two words</li> <li>speaks little or no English</li> <li>pronunciation interferes with being understood</li> </ol>		is growing begins to take part in social conversations and some class lessons asks and answers simple questions speaks hesitantly, rephrasing and searching for words pronunciation can interfere with	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	particulars teach is usu for class pron	e errors cipates room d ner guic ually ab larificat ks with unciatic	ole to ask o	y in y, with questions itations mes	4.	uses social and content specific vocabulary, with support, at grade level participates hesitantly in social conversations and small group discussions is able to ask questions for clarification
□ pre-emergent		<ul><li>6.</li><li>7.</li></ul>	being understood compensates for limited vocabulary by using known vocabulary and /or awkward wording grammar errors frequently interfere with communication	<ul><li>6.</li><li>7.</li></ul>	word gram	ling ımar er	uses awkv rors some th commu	times	<ul><li>5.</li><li>6.</li><li>7.</li></ul>	occasionally makes pronunciation errors, but they do not interfere with meaning rarely uses awkward wording grammar errors do not interfere with communication

	LEVEL 1 (Emerging / Beginning)	LEVEL 2 (Developing)		LEVEL 3 (Expanding)		LEVEL 4 (Consolidating)
Reading	1. recognizes letters and numbers	1	1.		1.	
	<ol> <li>begins to use phonics to sound out simple words</li> <li>begins to recognize a few high-</li> </ol>	Oral reading demonstrates use of some decoding skills     has a growing vocabulary of	2.	uses decoding skills and a variety of reading strategies, with teacher guidance	2.	With assistance, uses varied reading strategies to aid understanding
	frequency sight words 4. attempts to read by using	sights words  4. is beginning to use reading	3.	has acquired <u>basic</u> sight vocabulary for grade level	3.	has acquired most grade level sight vocabulary
	pictures to support meaning 5. participates in choral reading	strategies to assist comprehension	4.	reads and understands easy fiction	4.	reads and understands most fiction at/near grade level, with
	but has little understanding	5. reads familiar and patterned material	5.	reads and understands simple content-area material	5.	support reads and understand non-fiction
						near grade level, with support
☐ pre-emergent					6.	requires support to read, interpret and evaluate a variety of reading materials
					7.	is increasingly able to find details in texts at/near grade level
Writing	1. relies on drawings and labels to	1	1.		1.	
	convey meaning	2. Writes simple sentences with	2.	Begins to use a variety of	2.	Uses a variety of sentence
	<ol> <li>can copy alphabet letters or words         <ul> <li>can copy pattern sentences</li> </ul> </li> <li>Begins to use invented spelling based on letter sounds</li> <li>Uses repetitious and limited vocabulary</li> </ol>	limited variation in verb tense	sentence structures appropriate for grade level, with some errors			structures, with some errors
		Uses conventional spelling for commonly used words		3.	Has learned most of the rules of	
		Compensates for limited	3.	Is learning to use rules of		spelling at/near grade level
		vocabulary		spelling	4.	Vocabulary is at/near grade level
		5. Writing exercises require extra	4.	Uses more varied vocabulary	5.	expectation
	5. Produces limited output	time	5.	Often needs extra time to write tests and assignments	Э.	Rarely needs extended time for written assignments
	6. Intended meaning of	6. – begins to apply rules of writing and grammar, with many errors	6.	-applies rules of writing and	6.	Applies rules of writing and
П пио отпочиванть	unsupported writing is often	-writing contains sentence		grammar taught in class, when		grammar
☐ pre-emergent	unclear	fragments, run-ons		fewer errors	7.	Begins to write more clearly with
		7. Begins to organize and sequence		-sometimes uses awkward wording		some organization
		ideas, with teacher guidance	7.	can organize and develop		
				ideas with teacher guidance		

Signature:		
	ELL Resource Teacher / Administrator	

#### Areas requiring further attention/development:

✓ spelling and punctuation

✓ rules of grammar

following written instructions

sentence structure and word order

proofreading work

writing complete sentences

Strategies to improve English, support integration, and build confidence:

WHAT	HOW	
reading fluency	<ul> <li>read magazines, books, and other types of printed text</li> </ul>	
oral reading	- read aloud, retell stories, choral read	
oral English	<ul> <li>join school clubs, team sports, community centre activities, speak English to friends</li> </ul>	
study skills	<ul> <li>set up a consistent time and quiet place to complete homework and to study</li> </ul>	

Additional comments:	
	(81

#### Note:

- The fastest gains are often between Level 1 and Level 2.
- Some children return to a previous level of ELL for a period of time because the expectations at the next grade level may be more demanding
- It is very common to remain at Levels 3 and 4 for more than one year

#### Recommendations:

- Continued ELL support is needed
- No further ELL support is needed at this time printed using SilhouetteELAR Version 2.0.5 - 13 Jan 2012



School District No. 39 Vancouver Board of Education

#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER REPORT

#### Vancouver Elementary School

Term 2

BCeSIS#

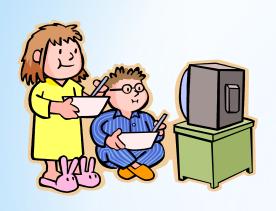
School Year:	
Student:	
Grade	Division
Classroom teacher:	
ELL Resource Teacher	r:
ELL Teacher's signature	

Administrator's signature

This English Language Assessment Report (ELAR) accompanies the classroom teacher report. English Language Assessment Rubric/Report (ELAR) - Term 2: Sample 2-7 Support:

English Level		LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
Achieved	Emerging	Beginning	Developing	Expanding	Consolidating
ORAL LANGUAGE	☐ understands very little English ☐ follows other students in class routines	☐ understands simple words, phrases, sentences and instructions ☐ understands parts of simple oral lessons with support ☐ communicates basic needs	☐ understands simple sentences in a conversation with repetition ☐ understands simple short oral lessons ☐ follows one direction at a time if given clearly	☐ understands more complex sentences in a conversation with some repetition ☐ understands most content and academic language with support ☐ follows a series of directions with prompts	communicates effectively in social and classroom settings     understands grade level academic content with minimal support     successfully follows directions at grade level
Level -	☐ speaks almost no English ☐ relies on body language and visual cues to communicate	□ participates in choral speaking     □ responds with yes/no or single     word utterances     □ speaks with hesitation     □ can name concrete objects     □ developing a vocabualry of     functional words     □ pronunciation can interfere with     being understood	□ asks and responds to simple questions     □ speaks using short phrases     □ speaks with some hesitation, rephrasing, searching for words     □ uses simple grammar     □ uses limited vocabulary, awkward wording     □ pronunciation sometimes interferes with being understood	<ul> <li>is usually able to ask questions for clarification, with some hesitations</li> <li>retells stories and recounts events with some support</li> <li>participates hesitantly in class discussions with support</li> <li>applies rules of grammar most of the time</li> <li>uses adequate vocabulary</li> <li>pronounces most English words clearly</li> </ul>	☐ is able to ask and answer questions for clarification ☐ makes longer content-based presentations ☐ is able to listen to and add to group discussions ☐ uses a variety of grammatical structures ☐ uses varied vocabulary appropriate for a given context ☐ speaks with near native fluency
READING Level -	□ recognizes letters and numbers □ shows an awareness of how books and print work □ participates in choral reading but has little understanding □ attempts to read by using pictures to support meaning	identifies most letters and matches print with corresponding oral sounds     uses phonics to sound out simple words     recognizes a few high-frequency sight words     uses picture clues to predict story events	<ul> <li>□ oral reading demonstrates use of some decoding skills</li> <li>□ has a growing vocabulary of sight words</li> <li>□ reads a variety of familiar and patterned material</li> <li>□ uses reading strategies to assist comprehension</li> </ul>	☐ reads and understands fully a variety of 'easy' texts ☐ has acquired basic sight vocabulary near grade level ☐ identifies main ideas and keypoints of text near grade level ☐ predicts, evaluates and interprets reading materials with support	<ul> <li>□ reads and comprehends a variety of texts at/near grade level independently</li> <li>□ has acquired grade level sight vocabulary</li> <li>□ reads and draws inferences from text independently</li> <li>□ predicts, evaluates, and interprets a variety of reading materials with little support</li> </ul>
WRITING Level -	□ copies letters, numbers, and patterned sentences from a model     □ prints own name     □ uses drawing to convey meaning	uses invented spelling based on letter sounds     combines drawing and printing to create meaning     writes mostly phrases (fragments), with support     requires more time to produce written work     has a limited vocabulary     intended meaning of unsupported writing is often unclear	writes simple sentences with limited variation in verb tense     uses conventional spelling for commonly used words     continues to make errors in verb tenses/word choice     applies rules of writing and grammar with many errors     uses repetitive vocabulary     organizes and sequences ideas with teacher guidance	□ creates a variety of sentence structures     □ spells high frequency words accurately     □ often needs extra time to write tests and assignments     □ applies the rules of writing and grammar with few errors     □ uses varied vocabulary appropriately     □ writes a cohesive paragraph independently	□ uses a variety of sentence structures appropriate for grade level     □ has learned the rules of spelling at grade level     □ develops ideas with appropriate transitions     □ uses appropriate writing conventions     □ uses varied and complex vocabulary that is appropriate for the purpose     □ writes multiple organized paragraphs with little support

# What can I do to help my child be successful in school?













# Continue to Develop and Use Your First/Home Language

We want to encourage you and your family to continue using your first language at home. If students are good readers and writers in their first language, these skills will transfer to reading and writing in English.





Reading at home in first language



Learning English at school

# Get Involved with your Children's Education at School





- ✓ go with your children to activities or events at the school
- ✓ attend assemblies
- ✓ encourage after-school activities
- √ join the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)
- √ attend teacher Conferences
- √ visit the classroom/school
- ✓ volunteer at the school
- ✓ read/have your children read to you their agenda, newsletter, forms, flyers......
- ✓ take an interest in what your children are learning



✓ ask your children about their homework or class assignments

✓ask your children to summarize a particular idea or a chapter read in a book





✓ this can be done in your home language



- ✓ allow your children to telephone other classmates to discuss homework
- ✓ often assignments involve group projects





✓ invite English speaking friends over to play or do homework

# Support Your Children





## **VISIT THE LIBRARY**

- ✓ visit the public library with your children
- ✓ borrow English books and bilingual books
- ✓ participate in the family programs at the public library
- ✓ read ebooks online together





# **TumbleBook Library**



# TumbleBook Library Vancouver Public Library

http://www.vpl.ca/electronic\_databases/alpha/t



### **TumbleBook Library**

Paid for by VPL

For younger kids

An online collection of talking picture books for children to use by themselves or with an adult. Makes reading a multi-sensory experience with text, animation, music and narration. Also includes books and games in French and Spanish.

Access Now [opens in new window]



#### **TumbleBookCloud**

Paid for by VPL

For kids and teens - grades 7 and up

Online collection of YA/Teen novels, classics, poetry, short stories, audiobooks, popular graphic novels, and National Geographic videos. Over 600 titles are available with unlimited access, all the time, on your computer or mobile device with an internet.

Access Now [opens in new window]



### TumbleBookCloud Junior

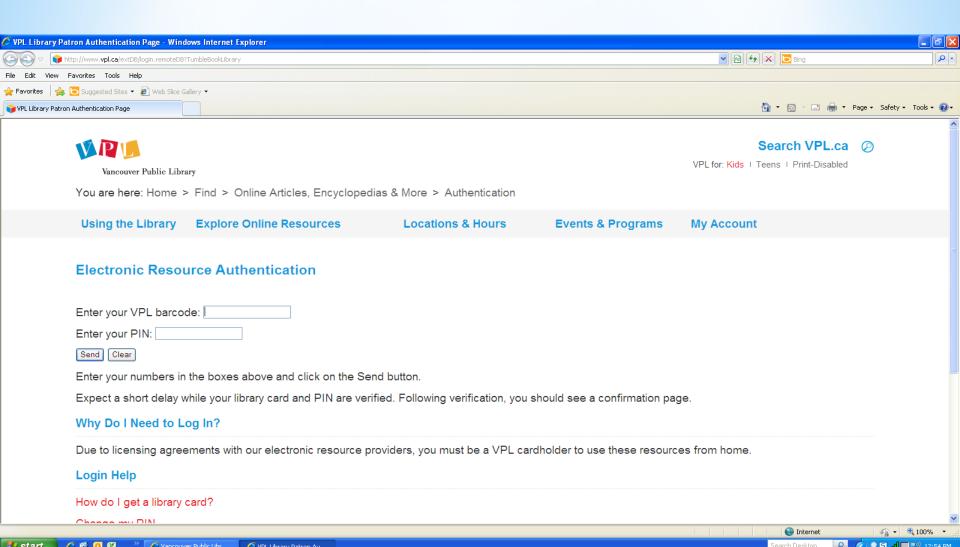
Paid for by VPL

For kids in grades 3-8

Online collection of eBooks and read-alongs, early reader chapter books, children's classics, graphic novels, children's audio books and National Geographic videos. All 600 titles are available with unlimited access, all the time, on your computer or mobile device with an internet, connection.

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# http://www.vpl.ca/extDB/login.remoteDB? TumbleBookLibrary



### **TUMBLESEARCH**

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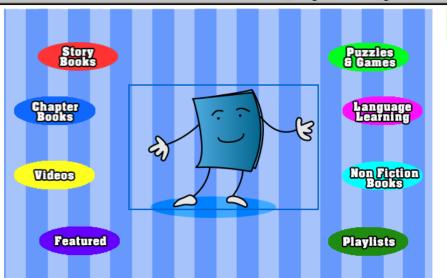
Keyword





CHOOSE: English **▼** GO

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### TUMBLENEWS



adventure to the capital of the United States -Washington, DC. Points of interest are

described through cheery postcards to friends and family.

Historical monuments, famous sights and fascinating facts about destinations are included to learn more about the location.

### Tumblebooks is also available on Telus tv channel 88

### TumbleBooks TV

Watch, learn and enjoy interactive storytelling with this child-friendly, easy to use video playback of books. Choose from a huge selection of popular kid's books.



- Browse book titles featured in our library sorted by theme and alphabetically
- Read a brief description of a book before selecting it, including book title, target age-level, author and playback duration
- Start video playback of your selection, controlling it with play/pause as you view the book
- You can find TumbleBooks TV on channel 88 or within the TV apps menu.
   Learn more >

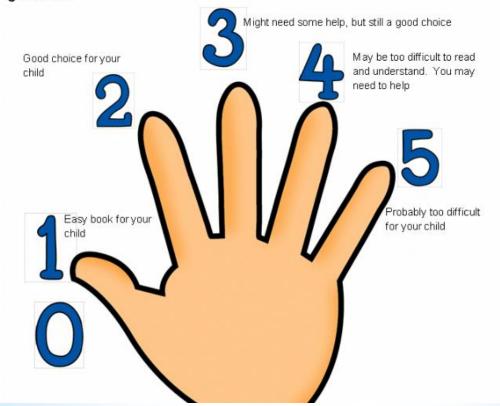
## **Choose Books That Are Appropriate**

Remember the Five Finger Rule

# Finding Right Fit Books

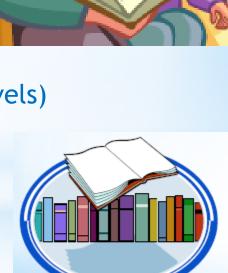
A "right fit" book is a book that your child can enjoy reading on their own. Reading just right books helps your child develop as a reader. To find a book that is just the right fit for your child, try using the five finger test.

Here's how it works: Turn to a page in the middle of the book. As your child reads, hold up a finger for every word he/she doesn't know. Use the following guidelines:



# **Encourage Your Child to Read Everyday**

- Read together(1st language books as well)
- Read a variety of materials(books, magazines, newspapers, graphic novels)
- Have a regular quiet time and place to read (no distractions, no music, turn off the t.v.)



# **At Home**



- ✓ have a quiet place in your home where your children can do homework
- ✓ set up a regular schedule "homework time"
- √ have a regular "bedtime" at a decent hour every day



# T.V. and Computers



- Limit television and computer games
- Allow some in English and some in your home language





- Children should try to watch one show in English several times a week
- Have children summarize/discuss the show they watched (tell what they enjoyed about the show)

Do NOT allow TV or computer in student's bedroom.

# **In the Community**



- ✓ join activities at the Community Centre that involve English (listening & speaking) (cooking, skating, summer camps, crafts etc..)
- ✓ join group activities (Scouts, Girl Guides, summer camps, soccer, softball ...)







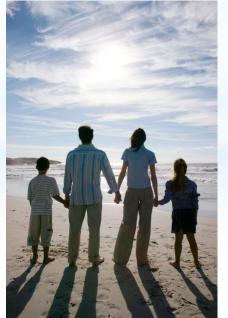
# Interact with your Children













## ✓ Play together

(board games, cards, basketball, bicycle, swim, video/computer games etc...)



√ Visit places together where children can read, hear and use English

(Science World, Aquarium, Space Museum, Community family festivals/programs, Art Gallery etc...)

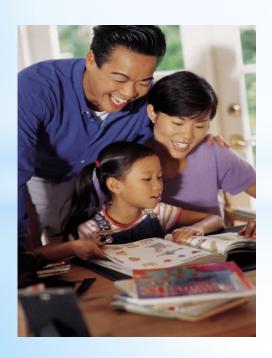


## ✓ Learn together

 read together, have your children read an English book to you



practice speaking English to each other





# **Encourage Your Children**













# Praise your children



Help your children feel good about learning by making them feel good about themselves

Celebrate their successes

Acknowledge their efforts





## Be Enthusiastic

Show children that learning is exciting/fun

Motivate children to do well in school

Give the message that homework is not a boring

chore



# Be a Role Model

- Read a variety of materials
  - books, newspapers, magazines

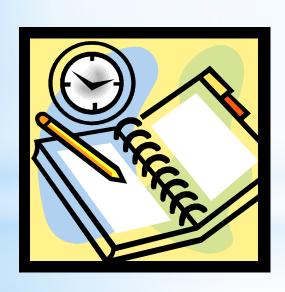


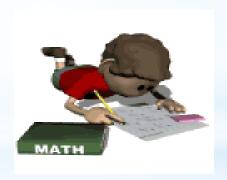
- Learn English
  - take some English classes
  - practise speaking English together
- Pursue a hobby/interest
  - share your hobbies with your children
  - encourage your children to have hobbies of their own



# **Be Patient**

Remember that learning a new language takes TIME.







## REMEMBER

- ✓ It may take up to 2 years to learn basic English communication skills
- ✓ It may take many years to become academically proficient in another language
- ✓ It can take up to seven years to learn the language of the textbooks

  7 YEARS







### **Online Resources:**

## Tumblebooks: Telus TV channel 88

http://www.vpl.ca/electronic\_databases/cat/C88

You will need a Vancouver Public Library card to sign in.



### **TumbleBook Library**

Paid for by VPL

For younger kids

An online collection of talking picture books for children to use by themselves or with an adult. Makes reading a multi-sensory experience with text, animation, music and narration. Also includes books and games in French and Spanish.

Access Now [opens in new window]



#### **TumbleBookCloud**

Paid for by VPL

For kids and teens - grades 7 and up

Online collection of YA/Teen novels, classics, poetry, short stories, audiobooks, popular graphic novels, and National Geographic videos. Over 600 titles are available with unlimited access, all the time, on your computer or mobile device with an internet.

Access Now [opens in new window]



#### TumbleBookCloud Junior

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#### VPL to Go

Paid for by VPL

A great selection of popular fiction and non-fiction ebooks (EPUB & PDF) and audiobooks (MP3 & WMA) are available through VPL to Go. Titles can be downloaded to your computer and transferred to a portable device. Check your ereader or player for compatibility.

## **Starfall**

# http://www.starfall.com/

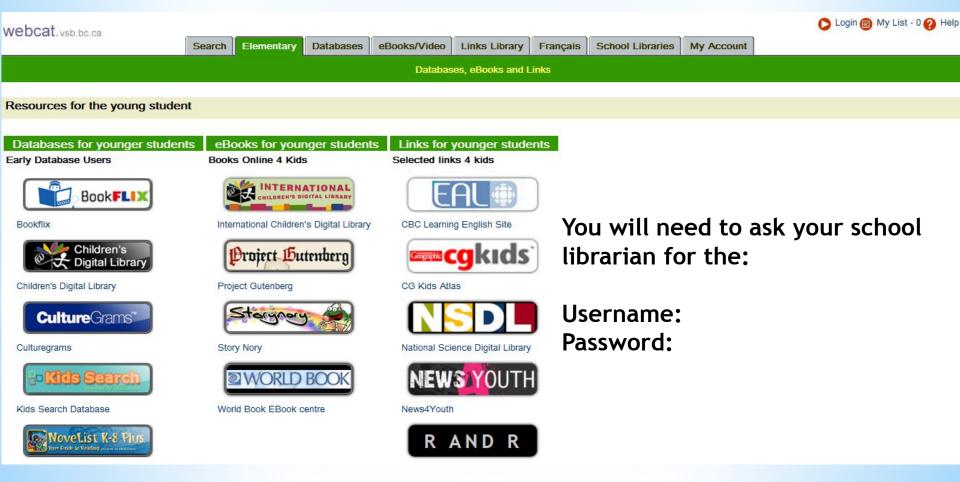


Starfall.com opened in September of 2002 as a free public service to teach children to read with phonics. Our systematic phonics approach, in conjunction with phonemic awareness practice, is perfect for preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, special education, homeschool, and English language development (ELD, ELL, ESL). Starfall is an educational alternative to other entertainment choices for children.

In May of 2009, we released the <u>Starfall Kindergarten Reading and Language Arts Curriculum</u> and in June 2013 the <u>Starfall Pre-K Curriculum</u>. Our method of instruction motivates children in an atmosphere of imagination and enthusiasm, provides opportunities for child-directed instruction, and

### Vancouver School Board: Webcat Library Catalogue

http://webcat.vsb.bc.ca



# Learn English Kids

LearnEnglish Kids has lots of free online games,

songs, stories and activities for children to have

fun and learn English too.

http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/



Find out how you can use LearnEnglish

Kids in the classroom.

# **Vocabulary Games**

# http://www.vocabulary.co.il/

