



6-12

SQUEEZE A READING OPPORTUNITY INTO YOUR REGULAR ROUTINE

1. Reviews and ratings

Make a joint decision on your next online purchase or choice of service companies. Read and discuss reviews and ratings with your student and model your own decision-making process.

2. Game night

Plan a family fun night and play games like 20 Questions, Charades, Scrabble, Chess or Boggle. Choose games that encourage reasoning and critical thinking.

3. Fix-it finesse

Technical manuals and users' guides represent complex text that serve an authentic purpose. Even if you don't need the manual, work through the steps with your student to increase his ability to follow complicated directions in writing.

4. State your case

Adolescents need their ideas to be heard and validated. When your child has an unusual request or disagrees with a decision you've made, ask him or her to write, and later present his rationale. Be sure to preserve time to listen and consider his/her point of view.

5. Brainy blogging

Use blogging for a specific purpose, on a specific topic of interest. Involve yourself in a blog of your student's choosing. Discuss the perspectives of the other bloggers.