

Welcome, Incoming Fifth Graders!

For the past couple of summers, Fairbanks Middle School has been able to offer a summer reading program through our subscription to Reading Plus. Reading Plus is the supplemental program we use at each of our grade levels to build strength in specific skills such as silent reading fluency, vocabulary, and word chunking/visual skills--all of which combine with other skills to improve overall reading comprehension and fluency. Struggling readers become stronger readers, and good readers become even better readers.

You have been signed up for a Reading Plus account. All you have to do is go to [login.readingplus.com](http://login.readingplus.com) and log in using your lunch number (your student ID number) and a password, temporarily set as morenci1. You will also be asked for a one-time site code: RPFAIRB. From there, you will be asked to complete an initial InSight assessment which will require the use of headphones and between 30 to 50 minutes to complete. The program will determine where you are in terms of reading rate, comprehension, and vocabulary, and it will open up a level for you to start progressing.

To encourage you and all of our current Fairbanks students, including our eighth graders who are promoting to the high school, we are offering incentives for reading. For every combo completed (2 consecutive lessons completed with 80% comprehension or better), your name will be entered into a drawing, held every two weeks, for one of a number of prizes, beginning Monday morning, June 22nd. Already, we have 2-\$25 Amazon gift cards, 1-\$25 Barnes and Noble gift card, and a Samsung Galaxy Reading Tablet as giveaways. Why not read and become a better reader while also being rewarded for your efforts?

Of course, if you'd prefer to read books, we encourage you to do that, too! We just can't track your progress the same way. I know my daughter is reading the latest in the Hunger Games series titled *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*, which takes place ten years after the point where *Mockingjay* left off. I'm finishing up *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman--have yet to watch the movie. And I just started *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson about an American ambassador and his family relocating to Berlin as the events leading up to World War II unfold there.

On the heels of national school closures, it's more important now than before that we prevent the summer slide of skills. So, please READ!

If you have any questions or would like your parents to participate, too, please call Fairbanks at 928.865.3501, and we can set up accounts!

Happy reading!

Anna Van Zile

# Reading Plus Home Learning Guide for Families

Reading Plus is a personalized online program that helps students develop skills they need to be confident, capable readers and lifelong learners. By using Reading Plus, your child will be able to read at a fluent rate with good comprehension.



Watch this video with your child to learn more about [Why Reading Plus Works](#). (3.5 min)

## Ready to Get Started? Here's How!

Each school provides parents and guardians with a Reading Plus letter that includes your child's site code, username, and password. Your child can use this information to log in at [login.readingplus.com](http://login.readingplus.com). For schools that provide a portal for their students to access their online programs, the school will provide the link and login credentials.



### New Students Only - Take InSight

Is this your child's first time using Reading Plus? If so, the first time your child logs in to Reading Plus, he or she will complete the Reading Plus InSight assessment. The assessment takes 30-50 minutes to complete.

### Supporting Your Child Before the Assessment

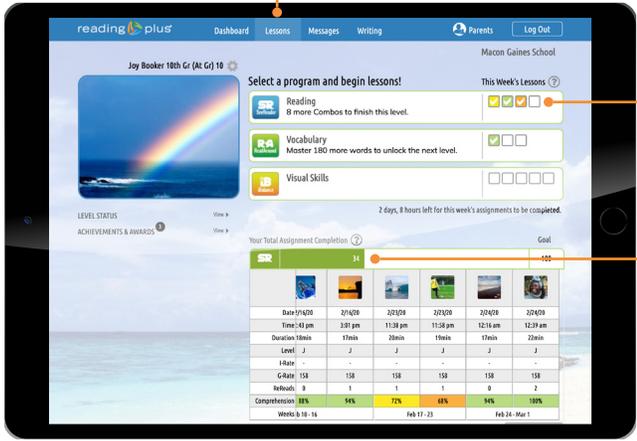
- ✓ Help find a quiet place for your child to take the assessment.
- ✓ Provide headphones so your child can listen to short orientation videos. Let your child know that these videos will guide him or her through the assessment.
- ✓ Tell your child that it will take approximately 30-50 minutes to complete the assessment. *Some students take more time, some take less.*
- ✓ Let your child know that it is okay to take a break during the assessment. Reading Plus will "bookmark" your child's place if he or she needs a break.
- ✓ Remind your child to do his or her very best!

Instruction will begin automatically after the InSight assessment is completed. Your child will work in the Reading Plus lessons that meet his or her needs, based on assessment results.

# Support Your Child's Work

Review the Student Dashboard with your child at least *twice* per week to ensure that all assigned lessons are completed.

Click the *Lessons* tab to access the Lessons page of the Student Dashboard.



Blank checkboxes represent **assigned** lessons and colored checkboxes represent **completed** lessons.

Colored checkboxes for Reading show the comprehension score earned on each completed Reading lesson.

- Assigned
- <70%
- 70% – 79%
- ≥ 80%

To access detailed lesson-by-lesson data, click on the green SR bar in the *Total Assignment Completion* section.

## What to Look for:

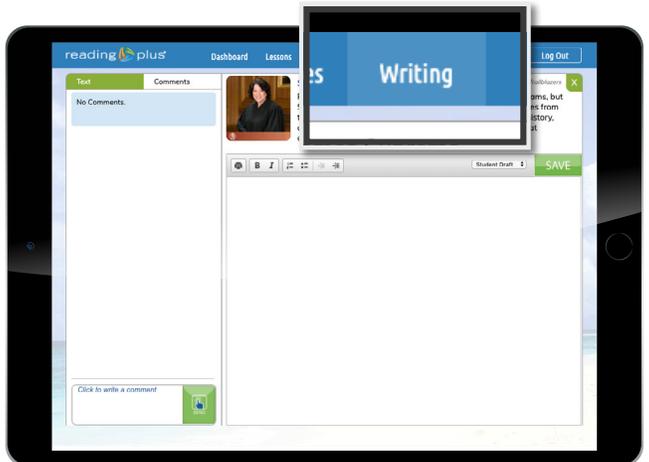
- ✓ **Ensure that Reading lessons are completed first.** Reading lessons supply almost all Reading Plus data and are the **highest** priority.
- ✓ **Celebrate success!** For example, congratulate your child on every Reading lesson completed with 80% or higher comprehension.
- ✓ **Look for Combos.** Your child will earn a Combo when he or she completes two Reading lessons in a row at 80% or higher comprehension. Combos will help your child to move up a Reading level, so celebrate them!
- ✓ **Remind students about ReReads.** When answering questions in Reading lessons, students can look back at what they read to ReRead it. This helps them pick the right answer. Check to make sure your child is using ReReads.
- ✓ **Ensure assignments are done by the end of the weekend.** For most schools, assignments reset every Sunday night at midnight.

## Looking for More?

### Assign Writing

Click the Writing tab to access the *Writing* page.

- To respond to a prompt, your child can click on the prompt of choice and type a response directly within Reading Plus. The response can be printed by simply clicking the print icon beneath the prompt.
- You may choose to use the [Reading Plus Rubric for Grading Writing](#) to review your child's work.



### Talk to Your Child's Teacher

Teachers have great ideas about what else students can do to build reading skills. Talk to your child's teacher about what your child is doing in Reading Plus, and what else your child can do to build reading skills while working at home.