Grade Four | Alberta Education and Childcare Literacy Screener

Supplementary Parent / Legal Guardian Resource

Calgary Board of Education

Your Grade 4 student has completed the Alberta Education and Childcare Maze Screener. The Maze acts as a “blood pressure check,” providing a general idea of how well your child understands what they read on their own. Reading comprehension is a complex process that involves reading words correctly, making meaning of words and sentences, connecting ideas, and using knowledge to understand text.

Below are some key skills you can focus on to support your child’s reading comprehension:

Skill	What to look for	What families can do	Examples
Understanding What You Read	Can your child explain what they have read in their own words?	▪ Read or listen to short texts together. ▪ Pause occasionally when reading to talk about what is happening. ▪ Ask your child to explain the important ideas in their own words.	“What is happening in the text? What do you think will happen next?” “What have you learned so far? What is the most important idea?”
Build Background Knowledge and Vocabulary	Does your child understand important words and ideas in the text?	▪ Read and talk about a variety of topics your child is interested in. ▪ Discuss unfamiliar words and connect new ideas to things your child already knows. ▪ Encourage your child to be curious and ask questions.	“What do you think this word means?” “What do you already know about this topic?” “What does this remind you of?”
Reading Fluently	Does your child read aloud accurately and at a pace that allows them to focus on meaning?	▪ Take turns reading aloud. ▪ Encourage your child to reread a short section to make the reading smoother the second time. ▪ Pair audiobooks with print so your child can listen and follow along.	“What word was tricky? Let’s look at it again together.” “Can we read this part again together?” “What did you notice when we listened to this?”
Talking About Text	Can your child use information and vocabulary from the text to explain their thinking?	▪ Ask questions that encourage conversation rather than quizzing. ▪ Talk about interesting, surprising, or confusing parts of what you read. ▪ Encourage your child to show you where they found an idea in the text.	“What makes you think that?” “What part of the text helped you think that?” “What does this word tell us about what is happening?”

Note: Images were created with the support of AI.

Tip: You can also do these activities in the language your family uses at home. Talking, singing, and playing with words all support literacy.

If Your Child Requires Additional Support

If the screening shows that your child requires additional support, the school will provide extra help with the skills your child is learning.

- ✓ Review screening results along with other information about your child's learning.
- ✓ Identify the skills that need additional support.
- ✓ Provide additional teaching and support based on your child's learning needs.
- ✓ Continue to monitor your child's learning and progress.
- ✓ Adjust supports as needed based on how your child responds.

Looking for Ways to Support Your Child's Learning at Home?

Explore the free resources from the Calgary Public Library (CPL), along with additional resources designed to support families of students in French Immersion.

Supporting Families Through the Calgary Public Library (CPL)			
Sign Up for your Free Library Card https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/your-library/join	**Access Online Books through iLibby at CPL** https://libbyapp.com/library/calgary	**CPL Resources for Kids** https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/connect/kids	**CPL Resources for Parents and Caregivers** https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/connect/parents-and-caregivers

Resources to Support Families of Students in French Immersion	
Canadian Parents for French (CPF): **Resource Hub** https://cpf.ca/french-footprints-parent-resource-hub/	***Yes, you can help!*** **Information and Inspiration for Parents of French Immersion Students** https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/9780778596806