

Reading Alternatives

(when technology isn’t working)

* Check out 2 copies of the same book from the library and read it to one another during tutoring time or discuss pre-determined read chapters
* Practice word work. Use a piece of paper to write down rhyming words. For example, tutor begins by writing down ‘stop’, then the student writes ‘stop’ on his/her paper and adds ‘shop’. Continue back and forth until you can’t think of any more rhyming words. (other rhyming words may end with, -at, -an, -it, -in, -on, etc.)
* Play hangman using spelling words or a vocabulary word you recently discussed in your student’s reading
* Practice sight words. Write each sight word on an index card. Flash it on the screen for your student to see. Have your student read it. Keep track of the words your student knows each time you play. (A list of sight words can be found on Whiz Kids website under tutor resources.)
* Read to your student and have your student draw a picture of what she is visualizing in his/her head.
* Practice spelling words if your student has a spelling list.
* Draw a picture on a piece of paper and write a sentence describing the picture.
* Write back and forth to one another using a piece of paper or the chat feature on Zoom. For example, ‘what is your favorite color?’. Have the student use the words in your question to answer the question. Like, ‘My favorite color is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.’ Or ‘what was your favorite activity over winter break?’. ‘My favorite activity over winter break was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.’
* Pick a word that has at least 6 letters or more; like, ‘Easter’. Along with your student, write down all the words you can think of that can be spelled from the letters in ‘easter’. (I can think of: at, eat, east, sat, set, seat, etc.) Then you can google, ‘how many words are in the word easter?’ And you will have a new challenge. (There are at least 90! words in ‘easter’!!) Good luck!
* For older students, this activity helps develop vocabulary. Pick a word, like ‘sight’, and try to think of other words that have sight in them. For example, oversight, hindsight, foresight, sightless, sightline, bombsight, eyesight, insight, etc. You can discuss the meaning of each word.