



ABC Life Literacy Canada suggests the following tips on encouraging teens to read:

**Be on "Read Alert":** Clip out newspaper or magazine articles on subjects that are of interest to your teens and discuss them together - use reading as an opportunity to share ideas and have a dialogue with your teenager.

**Turn off the TV:** Put a reasonable limit on television, video games and computer time so there is time for reading in your teen's life.

**Make reading relevant:** Give your teens books, newspaper articles and magazines about things that interest them—music, TV, movies, and computers. Talk with them about their interests.

**Be a Reading Role Model:** You are a role model for your teens, and your excitement for learning is contagious. Make sure you set aside leisure time in your own life for reading and learning, and encourage your teens to do the same.

**Open your wallet:** Buy your teenagers a subscription to a teen-focused magazine, or offer a book allowance that enables them to buy books or magazines of their choice.

**Don't discriminate:** Remember that it's more important to encourage reading in general, rather than specific reading materials. For example, Toronto-based reading expert Paul Kropp recommends *The Guinness Book of Records* and the provincial *Driver's License Examination Manual* for reluctant teen readers. Although parents and teachers may think that these books aren't literature, Kropp argues that both require quite serious reading.

**Dear Diary:** Give your teenager a journal and encourage them to write daily entries.

**Stay Sharp with Puzzles.** Test your knowledge by doing crossword puzzles, word jumbles and word searches with your teenager.

**Surf** the Internet together to find great sites that support your hobbies.

Check out [www.abclifeliteracy.ca](http://www.abclifeliteracy.ca) for the "Lunch with Robert Muncsh" story writing contest. As well, submit your story to your local library or online at [info@litforlife.com](mailto:info@litforlife.com) to win a lunch with local author Jacqueline Guest.

Go to [www.litforlife.com](http://www.litforlife.com) by November 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 to check out activities for Family Literacy Day January 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 in the MD of Foothills #31.

Family Literacy Planning Committee  
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