

# 3 BIG Ideas for Parents

## { for reading at home }

### Thinking Deeply

The English Language Arts standards emphasize critical thinking. They require students to analyze more, discuss more, evaluate more, justify more, and explain their thinking and understanding deeply.

**Take Away:** Really thinking deeply is hard. Let it BE hard; let them talk it out.

### Balanced Reading Diet

The English Language Arts standards emphasize a balanced reading diet of both fiction and non-fiction. So, for every fiction book students read, they should also read a non-fiction book.

**Take Away:** Read many different types of books.

### Supporting Your Answers

The English Language Arts standards emphasize proof and evidence. Students are encouraged to show what they know by supporting their answers with specific examples from their reading. When your child gives you an answer, ask him/her to include the why or how. For example, I know \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Take Away:** Go back to the reading to support your answer.

