

Free Reading Sites for Kids

Storyline Online

<http://www.storylineonline.net>

Developed by The Screen Actors Guild Foundation, Storyline Online features accomplished actors and actresses reading some of their favorite children's books. Each story comes with a free Activity Guide and can be viewed on YouTube or SchoolTube. *Rainbow Fish*, *Wilfrid Gordon Macdonald Partridge*, and *To Be a Drum* are just a few of the books available.

Read to Me

<http://readtomelv.com>

Similar to Storyline Online, Read to Me features popular children's books being read by famous performers. There are activity guides with hands-on ideas, discussion questions, and lesson plans that can easily be adapted to the Common Core State Standards. Entirely free, the site is colorful and engaging.

We Give Books

<http://wegivebooks.org>

A Pearson Foundation Initiative, We Give Books offers students a unique opportunity to read for social good. Each book that is read results in a book that is donated to a charity for children. While the books are not read aloud, they allow students to practice "Read to Self" with a good fit book during center time. There are books for children in preschool through fourth grade.

Starfall

<http://starfall.com>

While some areas of Starfall are part of their premium service, they have many early reader stories available for free. Students can follow along as the story is read to them and can, in some instances, help create their own story. The website is highly engaging and a favorite of young readers.

Online Storytime by Barnes and Noble

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/u/online-storytime-books-toys/379003588/>

From *The Kissing Hand* read by author Audrey Wood to *Pinkalicious* read by Victoria Kann, Barnes and Noble's Online Storytime has popular children's books read out loud. While there are no supplemental materials to accompany the stories, this free site is perfect for "Listen to Reading" stations.

Note: The first story begins right away when the page opens so be sure that your volume is adjusted accordingly before clicking the link.

TumbleBooks

<http://douglascountylibraries.org/Research/TumbleBooks>

TumbleBooks is a pay-for-use site that traditionally sells licenses to libraries and schools. Douglas County Libraries pays for teachers and students to use it for free as long as you have a DCL library card. Students can follow along as the text is read them to help improve comprehension and fluency. Choose from picture books to chapter books

International Children's Digital Library

<http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

Discover books from around the world at the International Children's Digital Library. The free site does not read the books aloud, but students can read them independently during Read to Self or free time. This is a great site for extension activities when learning about different regions of the world and can be used effectively into the middle school grades.

ABCya!

<http://abcya.com>

Children can listen to short stories read aloud to them as they follow along with the highlighted text. ABCya! has a variety of educational games in addition to the featured stories. Free resources and materials are available for grades K through 5.

Storynory

<http://www.storynory.com/>

Storynory features a collection of original, fairytale, and classic children's audio stories. Students can follow along with the story as it is read to them, as the text is also included on the site. There are also some great features available that give you the option of downloading the audio to your computer, listening to "catch phrase" explanations, translating text into different languages (especially helpful for your ELL students!), and more.

National Geographic Young Explorers

<http://ngexplorer.cengage.com/ngyoungexplorer/index.html>

National Geographic Young Explorers is a magazine designed specifically for kindergarten and first grade students. Children can listen to the magazine being read to them as they follow along with the highlighted text. It is a great way to bring interesting non-fiction stories into reading center time.

Oxford Owl

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

After registering for a free account, you have access to over 250 children's audio books that can be used in the classroom. The book text is not part of the presentation, so students will not be able to follow along as it is read to them.

Shepherd Software

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/>