



Teachers,

November is National Family Literacy Month – a time to focus on special activities and events that showcase the importance of family literacy programs. As a celebration gift to you, our activity of the month for November has been created for you to share with parents and caregivers.

Parents & Caregivers,

Experiencing your child's growth as a reader is an exciting and rewarding time. One of the strongest supports you can offer as your child creates positive reading habits is to model the importance of literacy and reading. We invite you to partner with your child's school to celebrate National Family Literacy Month by fostering strong reading behaviors that will last a lifetime! **Are you up for the challenge?**

Getting Started

Critical Thinking Trait Focus—Strive: Prepare to talk with your child during the activity about the **Strive** critical thinking trait and how they can use this trait to conquer the Family Literacy Challenge.



Strive—I use effort and determination to focus on challenging tasks.

Vocabulary—Try to incorporate some related vocabulary into casual conversation as you and your child **Strive** to conquer the Family Literacy Challenge.

- Challenge—a difficult task or problem
- Literacy—the ability to read and write
- Habit—something that a person does often in a regular and repeated way
- Criteria—used as a reason for making a judgment or decision
- Genre—type or category of literature or art
- Conquer—to gain control of (a problem or difficulty) through great effort

Materials—Think It Out!

Preparation—Start by creating a positive atmosphere. Find a comfortable place away from distractions. Consider your child's preferred [thinking and learning environment](#). Encourage closeness during reading time. This serves a dual purpose of strengthening the bond between a child and caregiver, as well as creating positive feelings related to the act of reading.



Instruction

Activity Directions:

The goal is to build positive reading feelings and habits.

1. Invite your child to choose titles each day to complete the challenge on the Think It Out! page.
2. Guide your child as they fulfill the criteria for each line item.
3. Experience each selection with your child. Ask and answer questions, offer your response to the literature, and invite your child's feedback.

A Note About Developing the **Strive** Trait:

As your child faces challenges, they might reach a frustrating moment of "What I tried isn't working." To support this stage:

- Encourage your child to pinpoint the source of their failed attempt.
- Talk with your child about failure. Reassure them that failure is simply an opportunity to learn.
- Adopt a positive, lighthearted approach as you encourage your child to explore new solutions.

Reflect

After your family has used the **Strive** trait to conquer the Family Literacy Challenge, reflect on your journey. Use purposeful discussion points to help your child identify ways to maintain focus when they face a challenging task such as: "What helped us stick to the challenge on days when it was tough to keep our reading routine?"



Think It Out!

Family Literacy Challenge

Try to read together at least 24 days in November to celebrate National Family Literacy Month. Place a check in the box each day. Are you up for the **challenge**?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We Read Together Today					
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24



We love to see how students interact with our resources!

Take photos of your students' work, share them on social media, and use the hashtags: **#MentoringMinds #CriticalThinking**. Find us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn **@mentoringminds**

Be sure to remember your social media tags!



The Ultimate Family Literacy Challenge!

Are you a family with competitive spirit? Try the Literacy Scavenger Hunt for a super-charged family literacy challenge! Fill up each line with a book title you read together that matches the criteria.

Literacy Scavenger Hunt	Title
Honor Books	To learn more about children's literature awards, visit infosoup.info/kids/awards
Caldecott Medal title	
Newbery Medal title	
Sibert Informational Book Medal title	
Wild Card (choose one more award type)	
Genres	To learn more about book genres, visit blog.reedsy.com/book-genres/
Fantasy or Fairy Tale	
Informational Text	
Biography	
Historical Fiction	
Science Fiction	
Comic or Graphic Novel	
Poetry	
Blog Article	
Wild Card (choose one more genre type)	
Specific Characteristics	To find a library in your area, visit littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap
A book with amazing illustrations	
A book with a sequel or part of a series	
A book with rhyming text	
A book that teaches a lesson	
Response to Literature	To find more literature titles, visit familycenter.mentoringminds.com
A book that made you think	
A book that made you LOL	
A book that made you feel creative	
A book that made you want a hug	
A book with a character like you	
A book that made you want an adventure	
A book that left you with questions	