

Literacy: Definitions and Key Questions

Look up the meaning of these words and write your own definitions. Follow your interests and reputable sources to learn more about literacy.

communication: a means of sending and receiving information; may be words or other style

comprehension: the understanding and interpretation of what is read

genre: a category of writing style or artistic composition, such as poetry, fiction, or portrait

grammar: the structure of language; how words sound and work together to communicate

library: a collection of books; a room or building where books are kept

literacy: the ability to read and write; knowledge in a specific area

literature: written works, especially those of high quality and lasting value; printed matter

phonics: a way of teaching people to read by correlating sounds to letters

poetry: writing style focused on concise language that expresses feelings and senses

reading buddies: pairs of different-age readers who share literature and conversation in order to build literacy, communication skills, and relationships

vocabulary: words used in a particular area; the body of words known by a person

Key Questions

1. Where do people in your community get books to read for free?
2. What do you remember about learning to read? Who helped you? What steps to reading or understanding the importance of books do you remember taking?
3. Why is it important to have libraries in a community? What does your local library do?
4. Does your community have resources, such as special education programming? How do these resources help the community?
5. What are some ways to make reading fun?
6. Research the steps of becoming "literate" at anything.

