

“A word of **encouragement** during failure is **worth more** than an hour of **praise** after success.”  
ANONYMOUS

COLORADO COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION — PARENTS & READING COMMITTEE

Sandy Backlund, Editor • Visit [www.ccira.org](http://www.ccira.org) for Parents' Clipboards and Parent Brochures • **COPY AS NEEDED!**



## Encouraging Words

Body language can tell you if your child is discouraged about learning. Here are examples of discouragements with responses that can help:

- **Poor spelling test:** “How close were you on this word? Six out of seven letters correct!!! Can you find another one you were that close on?”
- **Book is too hard:** “By next year, this book will be easy for you, but for now, you can listen to me read it, and you can tap me on the arm if you want to start reading again, OK?”
- **Handwriting struggles:** “Looking at this paper, I’d say you are getting better at this. Look at this ‘R’. That’s the nicest one you’ve ever made. You really are going to have nice handwriting!”
- **Avoiding task:** “Sometimes starting a job is the hardest part—can you try it for ten minutes and then let me know how it’s going?”
- **Slow reading progress:** Try some humor: “Hey, I’m 35 years old, and I read at the 32 year old level, but it doesn’t stop ME!!!” or, “You are reading better than I did at your age. Why do you suppose that is?”



## Ask a Specialist

**Q** My daughter is in kindergarten and is learning English. I know I should read to her, but my English is not very good. Can I read Spanish books to her?

**A** You should read what you read best, so you can model good reading. Also, the more you read to her in her first language, the easier it will be for her to learn to read English. For example, pointing to each word as you read is a generic reading skill that will help in both languages. The best thing you can do to help her become a reader is to experience the joy of reading together. Naturally, you should encourage her second language learning all you can. Go to [www.colorincolorado.com](http://www.colorincolorado.com) for books and ideas.

## School-Day Breakfasts That Last Until Lunch!

Mix and match: combine three, one from each group, for long-lasting energy!

Protein	+	Fruit or Vegetable	+	Whole Grain/Cereal
Cheese or Cream Cheese		Orange or Banana		Whole Wheat Toast
Beans		Leftover Veggies		Brown Rice
Milk or Yogurt		Frozen or canned fruit		Whole Grain Cereal
Nuts or Peanut Butter		Dried Fruit		Whole Oatmeal
Eggs or Meat		Applesauce		Whole grain waffles