

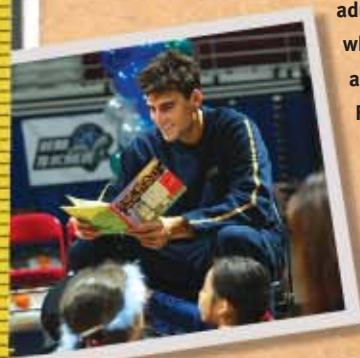
# Reading All Star

## Word Search



- |            |          |           |         |         |
|------------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| BASKETBALL | GLASS    | NET       | REBOUND | SLAM    |
| BOOK       | HOOP     | NEWSPAPER | REFEREE | WHISTLE |
| DRIBBLE    | LETTER   | PAGE      | RIM     | WORD    |
| DUNK       | LIBRARY  | PASS      | SHOT    |         |
| FREETHROW  | MAGAZINE | READING   |         |         |

Since its launch in May 2001, the NBA's Read to Achieve program has reached more than 50 million children each year! The program helps kids develop a lifelong love of reading and encourages parents and adults to read with them regularly. Read to Achieve is supported by the entire NBA Family, which is rather large— NBA teams, WNBA teams, NBDL teams, NBA officials, parents and wives of players, and the coaches and players associations! Additionally, Reading Is Fundamental, (RIF), the nation's oldest and largest children's and family literacy organization, is a national partner with the NBA's Read to Achieve initiative. Read to Achieve donates over 300,000 books annually through reading events, book fairs, and reading incentive programs. One of the program's highlights is the NBA All-Star Read to Achieve Celebration. Every year, recording superstars such as Justin Timberlake, LL Cool J, and Alicia Keys join popular NBA and WNBA players to celebrate the joy and fun of reading. The Read to Achieve program proves that while reading is important it can also be a fun and cool thing to do!



Wally Szczerbiak



# NBA

## Reading Playbook

A Guide To Supporting Young Readers





Jason and T.J. Kidd

Creating strong readers takes a team effort and everybody needs to get in the game. Parents and other caring adults play key roles in helping children develop the reading skills they will need for the rest of their lives. Here are simple things you can do to be a reading coach to children in your family and community.



Sue Bird

Photos © NBAE/Getty Images



Shane Battier

### Run Read-Aloud Drills to Improve Reading Skills

Reading aloud with children of all ages is a great way to spend quality time with them while helping to develop their reading skills. When they get older, have them read to you and encourage older children and teenagers to read to younger kids.

### Practice, Practice, Practice!

Like perfecting a slam dunk, reverse lay-up or three-point shot, strengthening reading skills takes practice. Try to set aside special reading times each week to read with kids or have them read on their own. As little as 10 minutes a day can help improve children's reading skills and habits.

### Let Kids Call the Plays

Children who have an active role in choosing what they read for fun are much more likely to keep doing it. If they choose to read comic books, sports magazines, or a favorite book repeatedly, that's okay. They are enjoying reading!

### Use Home Court Advantage

Keep a fresh supply of cool and interesting reading materials in your home so the opportunity for reading is close by. Notice what attracts your children's attention and keep in mind their interests and hobbies when stocking up on books, magazines, and newspapers.

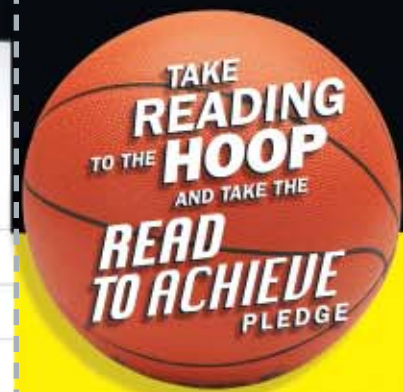
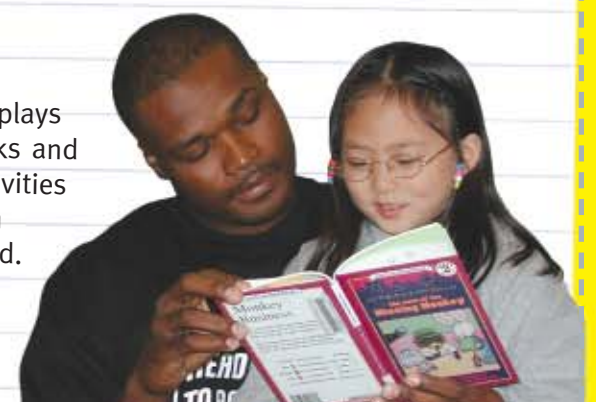
### Put on a Game Face

Playing games that are reading-related is an easy way to incorporate reading into family fun activities. Find spelling games played with letter tiles or dice, or board games that require players to read spaces, cards, and directions.

### Make a Fast Break for the Library

Your local library is where a lot of reading plays can begin. They have everything, from books and magazines to computers and organized activities just for kids. Check with your local librarian about what's available in your neighborhood.

Antoine Walker



Reading is fun and books are cool too, I will read a book daily to learn something new.

I will learn different words and I will listen in school, when teachers read stories and share reading rules.

I will practice my skills in every way, reading is something I will do everyday.

Reading offers great adventures to me, reading will help me be the best I can be.

Follow all the NBA Action and learn more about Read to Achieve on NBA.com.

For additional information and resources on being a reading coach to motivate young readers and support children's literacy, please visit the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) web site at [www.rif.org](http://www.rif.org).

