Kindergarten Reading Sites -

Starfall.com opened in September of 2002 as a free public service to teach children to read with phonics. Our systematic phonics approach, in conjunction with phonemic awareness practice, is perfect for preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, special education, homeschool, and English language development (ELD, ELL, ESL). Starfall is an educational alternative to other entertainment choices for children.

In May of 2009, we released the [**Starfall Kindergarten Reading and Language Arts Curriculum**](http://www.starfall.com/n/N-info/curriculum.htm). Our method of instruction motivates children in an atmosphere of imagination and enthusiasm, provides opportunities for child-directed instruction, and supports English language learners and struggling readers learning alongside their peers. Please visit [**The Starfall Store**](http://www.starfall.com/n/N-order/store.htm) for other low-cost phonics journals and books paralleling this website.

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

## About This Site

We find and review high-quality free educational software and websites - mostly for kids, but also for grown-ups. We have a large selection of web-based software (check the [Online](http://www.educational-freeware.com/online) tab), as well as Windows educational software to download (under the [Downloads](http://www.educational-freeware.com/freeware) tab).

<http://www.educational-freeware.com/online/category-Kindergarten.aspx>

Parents might favor reading books in person instead of staring at a computer screen, but STORYLINEONLINE.NET -- a hip combination of *Reading Rainbow* and Hollywood --  features excellent book-related questions and activity guides that accompany each book to make the experience more interactive and educational. After reading *Me and My Cat*, for example, you can "list the things Nicholas could do as a cat that he couldn't do as a boy. Discuss your list with a friend" or "write a Haiku about a cat." One caveat: After families visit this site, parents may need to pump up their storytelling showmanship -- kids may expect Oscar-worthy reading performances at every bedtime.

<http://www.storylineonline.net/>

This website's goal is to digitize 10,000 children's books from around the world. They are about halfway through so far, and results show already - books in 35 languages and from 40 countries, available in full color on this website. The books are a pleasure to read too - the scans are high quality, and you can click on sections of text that ... have already been "boxed" by the website in order to look at the text more clearly. The organization is also working on an iPad app which I would imagine would be amazing for anyone lucky enough to own an iPad. ;)

In addition, one feature I really like is the reviews written by other children around the world. These are pretty amusing to read and super cute as well...I imagine the reviews are enlightening for parents looking for good reads (from a kid's perspective), and a great way to get kids engaged and thinking after they finish reading the books.

So in summary, A++++. This site is a boon to parents of young children, whether they are looking to teach their children a foreign language, expose them to other cultures (there are many bilingual books), or just read books in general without having to buy them or go to the library. Learners of foreign languages will also appreciate this website very much. I hope ICDL continues the great work!

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