

# *Morning Baskets*

A Guide to Help You Get Started  
and Keep Going



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# How to Use This Guide

This guide will help you start using morning baskets in your homeschool.

Let the list of themes inspire you to start planning.

Find ideas on what to add for children from preschool through school-age.

Get ideas on making morning time a habit so you stick with it.

Get ideas on activities that will keep your kids focused while you read.

Learn how to adapt your morning basket to your unique family situation.

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This guide and any information provided are my own opinions. The advice I give is based on my own experience as a homeschool parent. I give no guarantees that your experiences will be the same as my own.

# Morning Basket Themes

Here are ideas of some themes that work well for morning baskets:

Holidays

Apples

Pumpkins

Colors

Flowers

Seasons

Animals

Ocean

Forests

Arctic

Gardens

Space

Historical Time  
Periods

Weather

Plants/Trees

Ponds

Life Cycles

Bees

Insects

Birds

Inventors/Scientists

Vehicles

Countries

Five Senses



# Morning Basket Ideas for School-Age Children

Read Alouds

Nature Study

Picture Study

Composer Study

Memory Work

Geography

Bible/Prayer Time

Drawing

Poetry

Math Supplements

Vocabulary

Games

# How to Make Morning Time a Habit

Start small.

- Begin with just 1 item in your morning basket.
- Slowly add more as you are used to previous additions.

Build on an anchor.

- Add your morning time after something you do daily.
- Meals are always easy to add onto.

Add what you love.

- Only include items you really want in your morning basket.
- If something isn't working, remove it.

Don't add too much.

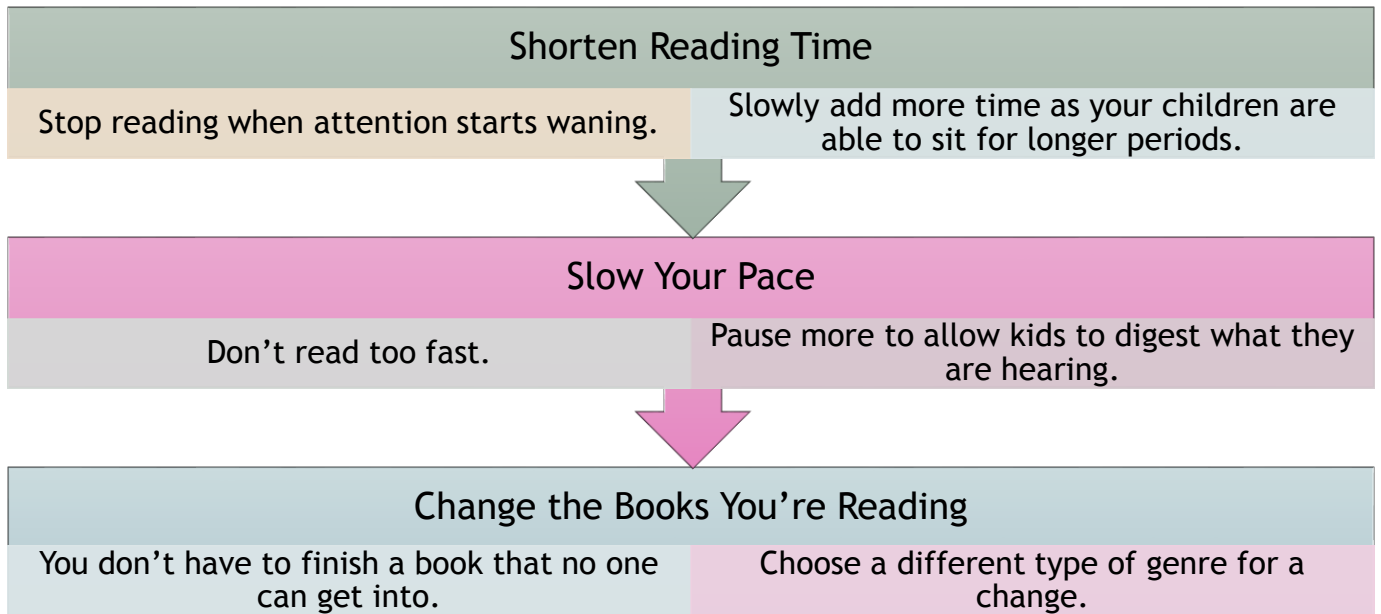
- Create a loop schedule to make sure you get to everything in a week or month.
- Remember you can always add something next year if you can't fit it in this year.

Make it your own.

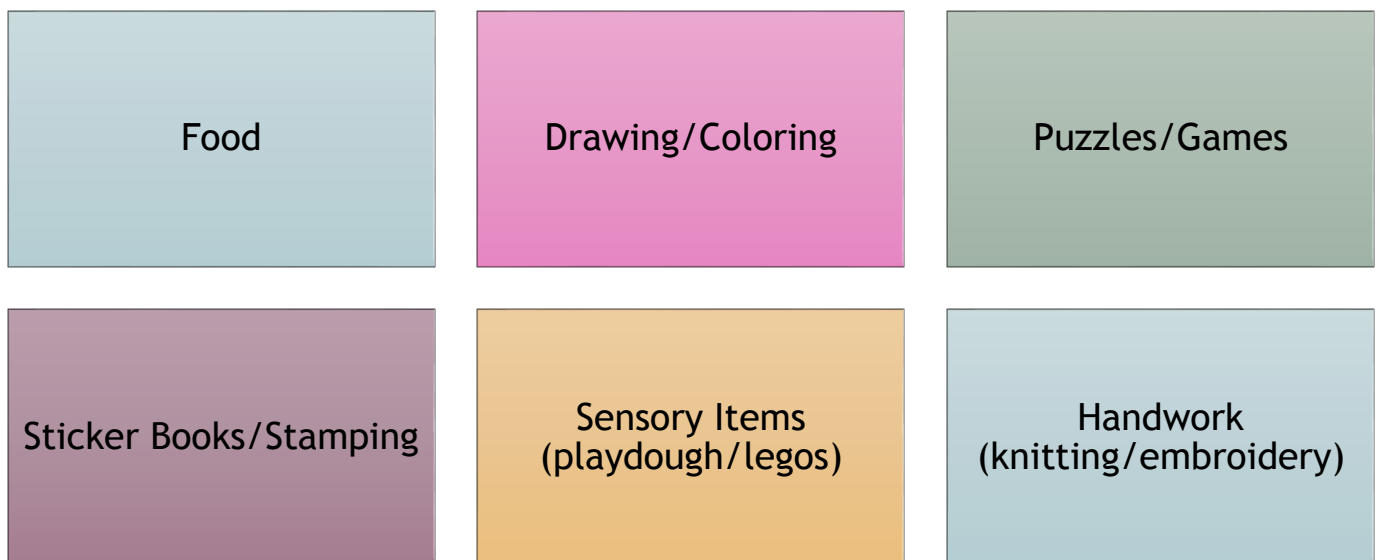
- Plan your morning basket based on your family's interests.
- Plan your items based on what you are learning this year (in science and history).

# How to Keep Your Kids Focused While You Read Aloud

Try these ideas first:



Keep hands occupied while listening to read alouds:



# How to Adapt Morning Baskets to Your Unique Situations

## Situation 1: Large Age Gaps

- Only include what everyone can participate in
- Have separate baskets for older group and younger group
- Begin with everyone, then dismiss one group to continue with other

## Situation 2: Different Wake Times

- Early risers begin individual work; morning basket when all awake
- Early risers can have playtime until all awake
- Begin morning basket same way everyday (ex: song) so all kids know when to be ready

## Situation 3: Bad Attitudes

- Put child with bad attitude in charge of something in morning basket (ex: read aloud)
- If attitude is very poor, dismiss that child to work independently instead

## Situation 4: Can't Fit It In

- Anchor morning basket on a part of day that always happens
- Keep it short enough that you still have time for rest of curriculum work
- Loop your morning basket items throughout the week (don't do everything everyday)



# Morning Basket Planning Page

Use this page to list the subjects you'd like to cover each day of the week.

Month:

Theme:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

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Subject	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday