

What's the best advice, strategy, or tool you have for keeping your books in good condition?

- All of my books are personally owned books so students are told of the importance of looking after the things they borrow and for the most part are really good about respecting the books.
- Be consistent and establish routines early
- Book boxes and book bags. The books my students take home are in special overnight book bags and in class we have book boxes for each child.
- Book tape for paperbacks; buy hardcovers as much as I can
- Book tape spines! Give kids bookmarks!
- Building pride within students in regard to books is the best strategy I have found. When books are well taken care of, new books are added. Conversely, when books are ruined or damaged, no new books are added for the month.
- Buy hardback when possible, tape edges and spine of paperbacks and make students put books in a ziploc bag in their backpacks
- Clear contact paper
- Consistent reminders to the kids!
- Constant discussions with students, making them a part of Donor Choose so they value the money and time it takes to purchase books.
- Contact paper
- Contact paper on paperback book covers helps.
- Contact paper the covers
- Cover them with contact paper
- Delegate the job to students
- Dis USA how important the books are to you during the first days of school. Have a class meeting to discuss procedure. Remind students as needed.
- Do a mini lesson on treating books like gold and train them on how to resolve books.
- Don't have any.
- Don't have one
- Dont share them.
- Emphasize student ownership as an expectation at BOY
- From day one, students are aware of how special books are to me. We "learn" how to respect all our materials.
- Get after students if I see abuse!
- Good training from the start of the school year.
- Ha! Please tell me - mine come back in AWFUL shape!
- Haven't found one!
- Help!
- I believe in teaching good procedures to the students so that they know how to handle the books well and take care of the.
- I cover really popular books with clear contact paper. Most kids know these are "mine" nosy the school's books and the treat them well. The kids know I love books and appreciate the opportunity to browse and borrow from this collection.
- I cover them with clear contact paper. But, there's a business in the area that makes it and

teachers can get the non-perfect product for free.

- I do some book love lessons and how to handle books at the beginning of the year. Our librarian also does a lesson as well.
- I don't have advice, I constantly use book points from scholastic to replenish and replace.
- I don't have one. If a book seems to be falling apart I'll take it and tape it.
- I don't have one. My students are pretty careful.
- I explain to the students I am trusting them with the books. Most students are good, restrict those who abuse them
- I got nothin lol
- I have bookmarks available and forbid students from marking the page any other way
- I have used a notecard for each book and they return the book to me.
- I have yet to find one. Hoping you'll share the results of this survey with us.
- I just ask students to keep my books in ziploc bags.
- I let my kids know I buy these books myself to give them more book choices. They seem to respect that. I also keep a box of bookmarks they are free to grab so they don't dog ear the pages.
- I love my books and expect the same from my students. They treat them well most of the time.
- I need advice. The only thing I really know for sure is that using the book covering laminate, which is both expensive and time-consuming, is well worth the investment. The books that I have covered in that are the sturdiest and I'm really thankful for how long it makes them last
- I pay for these books using my personal \$, I don't destroy your items please don't destroy mind. Plus you can't recommend a book to a peer of it is torn & tattered
- I put plastic covers on all paperback books. Students are required to keep their books in ziplock bags, which protect the books in the kids' backpacks.
- I reinforce the spines and covers of paperbacks with tape
- I remind my students that I have personally purchased these books FOR THEM. For most of the kids, this is a good reminder to be careful. :)
- I request that students put them in a plastic bag, which I give them.
- I simply have a talk with the students about how these are all mine and that I have spent a great deal of money on them, and to please be respectful with my things. If something is damaged, or lost, students replace them or pay for them. I also have the same discussion with the parents at curriculum night.
- I stress the importance of being respectful and establishing a sense of community in the classroom.
- I teach kids at the beginning out to treat the books.
- I tell the kids i spend my own money on the books and they are special to me. I ask that they treat them carefully and respectfully.
- I Telly he kids they are my books that I bought with my own money. They respect that.
- I try to buy hardbacks. Paperbacks just don;t hold up for more than a few readings.
- I try to cover the most popular books in contact paper, and I laminate jacket covers.
- I try to teach the kids to treat books with respect.
- I wish I had great advice or a strategy to share. I have taped the edges of the text to help with wear, but I am not sure it helped. I know a former colleague who required students to carry books home in large envelopes - seemed to work as her books always looked pristine. :)

- I wish I had one!!!
- If I know a book will be high traffic, or I want to keep it in good condition, I cover them with clear contact paper.
- Instill in your students s respect for books and explicitly teach how to treat and not treat books.
- Intentionally teach book care to students so they know what you expect!
- Introduce the library system and place value of taking care of the books. Books are treated very special and students look forward to checking them out! Each genre has a labeled book bin and the books have a corresponding label on the back.
- It is our Library and these are our books..
- It's the books that are well-worn that students know are the good ones!
- Kids keep the books in small book bags that I hang from closet hooks that hang on my classroom drawers and cabinets. They keep one in their desk. This helps protect them from getting mangled in messy desks!
- Kids know they will be charged to replace damaged or lost books.
- Kids must keep them in plastic ziploc bags
- Kids need book baggies to keep them in. I use 2.5 gallon ziplock reinforced on edges with duct tape.
- Labeled ziploc bags for each student to transport
- Laminate dust covers, keep paperback spines taped
- Library tape to reinforce spine when new
- Looking fir answers
- Lots of modeling and teaching and reviewing! Also giving kids ownership!
- Make an anchor chart with students in the beginning of the year and teach the expectations and procedures for taking care of the books. I also had a book hospital bin for books that needed to be repaired.
- Mini lessons on book handling
- Model expectations and follow up as needed
- Model how to love a book so that others can love it after you
- Modeling
- My kids know how much our books mean to me... To us really... And they work to meet our classroom expectations for respecting materials!
- My librarian covers paperbacks for me. If I could afford to is buy all hard back books!
- My students are older so they mostly treat books well. I check in with them regularly to return books.
- My students keep all books in a magazine holder labeled with their class number so I can use the boxes from year to year. I generally replace about three a year.
- No help for this
- None
- None. Books need love. ;-)
- Nothing in particular
- Only allow kids a couple of books so they don't end smashed in their desk. Throughout the year talk about keeping books on great condition. When I taught k-1 we hugged our books to carry them.
- Possibly covering all paperback books with lamination

- Post Classroom Library rules and reinforce them often.
- Practice, practice, practice at the beginning of the year. Being VERY explicit about your expectations of how students use the books, and the importance of keeping our library organized.
- Reiterate to students over and over the importance of reshelving books nicely. Show good/bad examples.
- Remind students about book care. I also keep a "book hospital" box for when books need repairs.
- Remind the kids that I purchased the books.
- Role model my respect for books
- Show students that you love and value the books
- Show the importance of keeping books nice to children
- Showing your love of reading and books. I see the classroom library as an essential necessity to students becoming life long readers. I make a big deal to stick it with books students want to read. Periodically I add titles throughout and make a big deal out of the newness of the books, smelling the pages, caressing it he book...weird I know LOL but students get a sense as to the importance of our classroom library on a daily basis. At the beginning of the year I also do a quick lesson in caring for the books, using bookmarks instead of folding a page corner and emphasize that we have a classroom library because they take care if the books and that I pay for all out of my own pocket. If a student is totally careless with a book and it is ruined I do ask parents to pay for it. If it was an accident I do not ask students to pay for it. It might happen in one book per year.
- Specific lessons need to be taught on how to care for books. We have to model what we want students to do, even down to how to treat books. I take the beginning of the year and do lessons and then we revisit this as needed.
- Start the year with a strong focus on respecting books and then follow through. You might loose some, but I have not lost many over the years. I also go through my checkouts periodically and ask for any books that have been out for a while.
- Still Searching
- Still trying to figure this one out....
- Stress the importance of respecting them so they learn to do the same.
- Take dust jackets off hard bound books when you check them out. Kids *destroy* them!
- Take off books covers on hard back books when students check them out and laminate paperback books
- Talk to kids but I still had some bad luck
- Talk to my students about taking care of them.
- Talking and modeling respectful treatment of our precious books & covering in clear contact paper.
- Talking with kids about expectations
- Taping when I see them torn; asking students to keep them in freezer bags as they transport them home
- Teach students about the care of books at the beginning of the year. Trust the students. My goal is to put books in the hands of children every day.
- Teach students how to take care of book
- Teach students how to treat books
- Teach students to love them.

- teach your students a sense of responsibility for and ownership of the books so they take care of them.
- Teach, model, practice! All year long
- Teaching students how to respect books, show them how you love them and take care of them, do not tolerate abuse to books, don't lend out books to students who are not responsible
- Teaching the children to care for the books. We go over this quite often but it doesn't seem to work.
- Teaching the students how to treat a book. Number one thing I stress is don't bend the book back or press it flat. I have an example that I show them of what happens because mine are paperback and not library quality. Most of the 5th graders get it.
- That's a tough one. I always have a conversation with my classes (I teach 2 sections of 4th grade ELA) at the beginning of the year about the importance of treating the books with respect so that future classes can use them and love them. Honestly, that's about it. I think once kids see how crazy organized/labeled/detailed my library is, they respect the work that went into it, and treat it with care. If books are shelved any-old-which-way on a shelf, students potentially may not be as careful with them. So, I would advise having the classroom library be nicely organized, displayed, and easy for kids to find what they want.
- The kids bring the book to me if it has a problem like loose pages.
- The kids have to be bought in to books being as important as underwear! Take good care of them, feel the loss when one goes missing or is ruined, celebrate books always. Keep an ideal bookshelf - I have my favorite books on the shelf (3-4 choices that change throughout the year) and students are invited to keep their favorite book on that shelf too. If you want to check out a book from the ideal book shelf, you have to talk to the person who put it there to see if they're ready to share the physical book or if they are still too in love to let it go at the moment.
- This went very smoothly. In their Reading Journals readers had a sheet for reading topic interests, genre interests, and authors they liked so I (and their peers) could make recommendations and also a Wish List for upcoming choices based on our daily book talks, book passes, book club group presentations, etc (see *The Write to Read: Response Journals That Increase Comprehension* for form and suggestions); in that way, students always had next choices in mind. Even though most of their reading came from the classroom library, we lost very few books (and I had 75-100 students each year); maybe because it was Their Library.
- Use the book app above. Amazing!!!
- We have mini-lessons and mid workshop lessons to practice how to handle books
- Weed out books kids aren't reading. I have too many books. The kids ignore most! Teach kids directly how to handle, use bookmarks, store and return. Replace favorites.
- When the students have ownership of the classroom library, they tend to be more respectful toward the books! Plus we have a great librarian in our school!