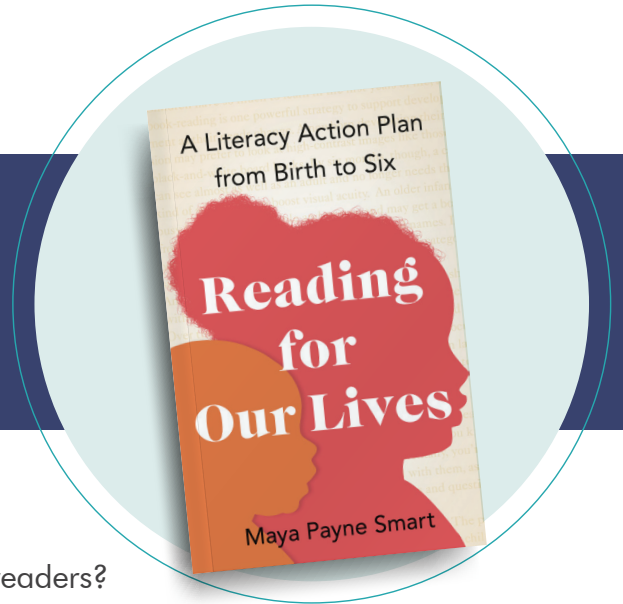


# Sample Interview Questions

Preparing for an interview with journalist and literacy advocate Maya Payne Smart? Here are some sample topics or ideas to explore related to her book, *Reading for Our Lives: A Literacy Action Plan from Birth to Six*.



- How did early literacy become so important to you?
- What's the most important thing parents can do to raise readers?
- How can relatives, friends, and community members support families to raise readers?
- What are some of the biggest challenges parents face in supporting young readers?
- Is reading aloud to kids regularly enough?
- How does technology help or hurt reading development?
- Don't schools teach reading? Why do parents need a guide like this?
- The title is "Reading for Our Lives." What does that mean?
- When should parents start preparing their kids to read?
- We keep hearing about learning loss during the pandemic. What's the solution?
- Is there a reading crisis? And if I'm not a parent, do I need to worry about it?
- We hear about huge reading inequities. How do we change that?
- How did you come up with your recommendations?
- It seems like everyone can read these days. Is literacy even an issue in modern America?
- With autocorrect, voice-texting, audiobooks, and all the technological solutions still to come, do kids even need to read or write all that well?
- Who is this book for?
- Is this a guide for stay-at-home parents or maybe homeschooling parents? Does it apply to parents who have kids in school?
- What sets your book apart from other books about raising readers?
- Some kids are doing just fine. If someone thinks reading won't be a problem for their child, do they need your book?
- What most surprised or inspired you in writing the book?