

FUN WAYS TO READ TOGETHER

Learning to read begins way before your child begins school. It begins in the home with you and your family. You are your child's first teacher. When you show your child that reading is fun you will set the stage for the rest of their lives.

Snuggle up and find a comfortable place to read. Experts say that reading at least 15-30 minutes per day increases the child's desire to read.



Let your child choose the books he wants you to read.

A good "rule of thumb" in selecting books is to have your child read one page of the book aloud, holding up one finger for each word that they do not know. If the child holds up four fingers and a thumb before finishing the page, the book is too difficult for them to read. But, it doesn't mean you can't read it to them.



Reading aloud ideas:

- ☺ Have your child read the book first silently.
Then you can read it together.
- ☺ If he doesn't know a word, wait 5 to 10 seconds and let them try to figure the word out.
- ☺ Suggest that they skip the hard words and read on to the end of the sentence.
- ☺ Reread the sentence and add the beginning sound, if that doesn't help...
- ☺ Look for familiar or small parts of the word, use your finger to cover part of the word.
- ☺ Look for picture clues.
- ☺ Guess what word comes next, put in a word that might make sense.
- ☺ And if all of these hints do not help, tell your child the word.

Understanding what you read is the main goal in reading. Many children can read out loud very well but they do not know what they are reading.

- ☺ Have your child retell the story in their own words.

Ask questions such as:

- ➔ Who are the main characters?
- ➔ What do you think will happen next?
- ➔ Where did the story take place?



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