



Parent Tips For Reading

- Read to your child or have your child read to you for **at least 20 minutes** every day.
- Don't leave reading to the schools. Children who **read outside of school** are far more likely to succeed than those who don't.
- Ask your child to supply **sound effects** while you read.
- After reading a book, **relate the plot or theme to a more complex subject**. For example, a book about a trip to Grandma's house can lead to a discussion about traveling.
- **Read books that you loved** when you were a child, and talk to your child about why you loved them.
- Ask your child to **picture what is happening** while you read. Ask what sounds and smells might be in the story.
- Ask your child to **give you feedback** about what you've read – by talking about it, writing about it or drawing pictures about it.
- When you have finished reading a story, ask your child to make up **a new ending** for it.
- Pause periodically to **see if your child understands** what you're reading.
- Use **props** when you read. This makes the story more interesting for everyone.
- The more **animated** you are when you read, the better your child will follow the story.
- **Read a book over and over again**. Children love repetition and learn from it.
- Point out to your child the **words and sounds** in the book you're currently reading that also appear in one of his favorite books or a book he has memorized.
- Keep books, magazines and newspapers around the house. This creates a **reading environment**.
- Let your child know that **reading time is special**. What a great time to cuddle up with your child!
- **Don't stop reading aloud** to your child once she learns to read because she will benefit by hearing stories that are too difficult for herself to read.
- Put a few **magnetic letters on the refrigerator**. Start with the letters in your child's name, and help your child make other words using these letters.
- Make a fun, age-appropriate **dictionary of letter sounds** for your child.
- As your child reads, have him close his left eye and read aloud to the end of the sentence, then switch to the right eye. This will improve your child's **comprehension**.
- **Make a tape** of your child's favorite stories, and ring a bell when you turn a page in the story. Have your child follow along in the book when he or she plays the tape.