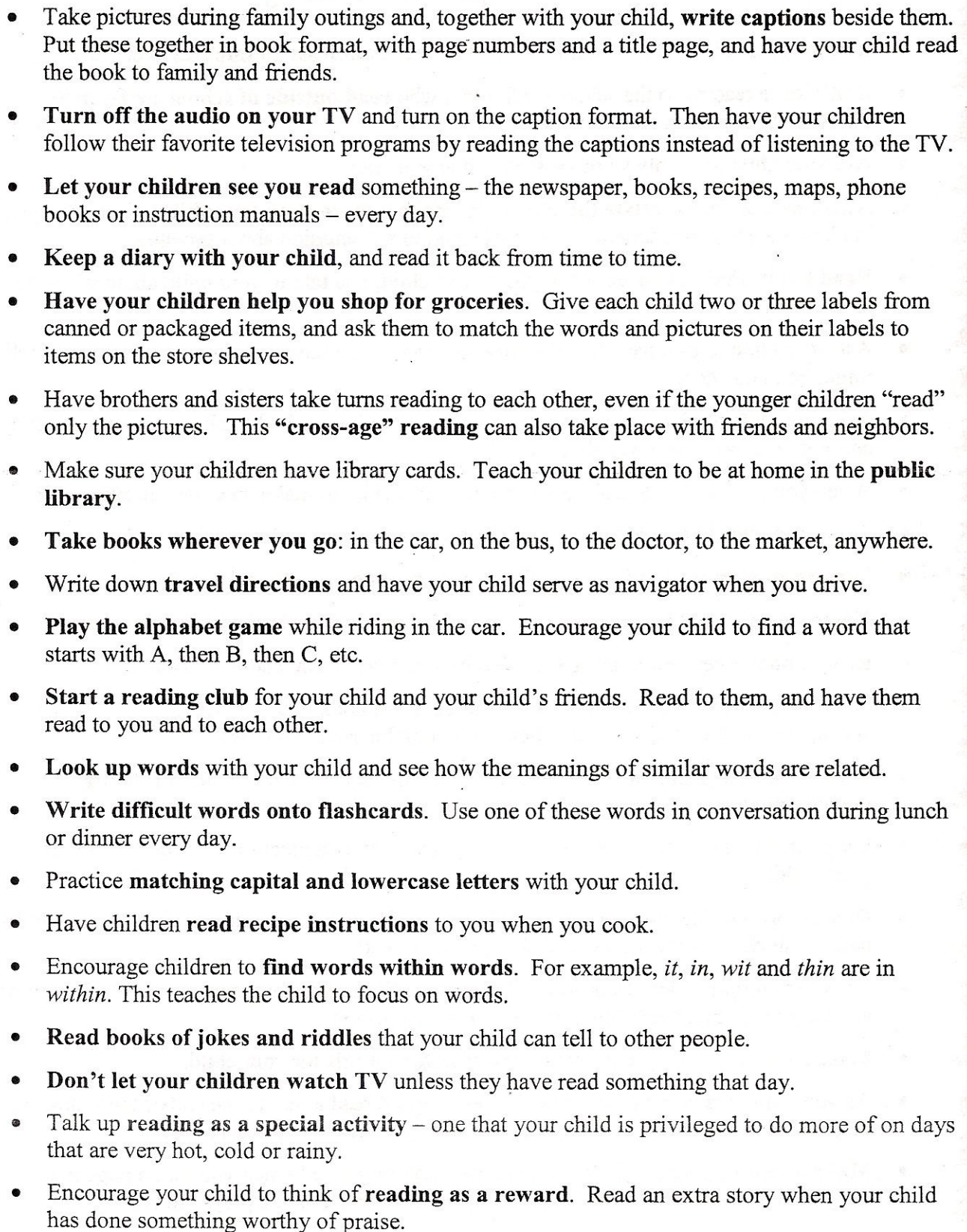


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- Take pictures during family outings and, together with your child, **write captions** beside them. Put these together in book format, with page numbers and a title page, and have your child read the book to family and friends.
 - **Turn off the audio on your TV** and turn on the caption format. Then have your children follow their favorite television programs by reading the captions instead of listening to the TV.
 - **Let your children see you read** something – the newspaper, books, recipes, maps, phone books or instruction manuals – every day.
 - **Keep a diary with your child**, and read it back from time to time.
 - **Have your children help you shop for groceries.** Give each child two or three labels from canned or packaged items, and ask them to match the words and pictures on their labels to items on the store shelves.
 - Have brothers and sisters take turns reading to each other, even if the younger children “read” only the pictures. This “**cross-age**” reading can also take place with friends and neighbors.
 - Make sure your children have library cards. Teach your children to be at home in the **public library**.
 - **Take books wherever you go:** in the car, on the bus, to the doctor, to the market, anywhere.
 - Write down **travel directions** and have your child serve as navigator when you drive.
 - **Play the alphabet game** while riding in the car. Encourage your child to find a word that starts with A, then B, then C, etc.
 - **Start a reading club** for your child and your child’s friends. Read to them, and have them read to you and to each other.
 - **Look up words** with your child and see how the meanings of similar words are related.
 - **Write difficult words onto flashcards.** Use one of these words in conversation during lunch or dinner every day.
 - Practice **matching capital and lowercase letters** with your child.
 - Have children **read recipe instructions** to you when you cook.
 - Encourage children to **find words within words.** For example, *it*, *in*, *wit* and *thin* are in *within*. This teaches the child to focus on words.
 - **Read books of jokes and riddles** that your child can tell to other people.
 - **Don’t let your children watch TV** unless they have read something that day.
 - Talk up **reading as a special activity** – one that your child is privileged to do more of on days that are very hot, cold or rainy.
 - Encourage your child to think of **reading as a reward.** Read an extra story when your child has done something worthy of praise.