

Young Readers

Make Reading Come Alive!

Parents and caregivers can support the learning of young readers by making reading an important part of each and every day by following some of these simple tips.

Give children choices.

Allow your child to select books that interest and excite him or her. Read a variety of literature and informational texts. Don't leave home without something to read.

Waiting for someone always goes quickly when you have something to read!

Create a positive experience.

Cuddle up together in a comfy place where you both can focus on each other and your reading.

Model for your child.

While you are reading, be expressive, fluent, and make the story come alive. Read books for your own enjoyment to show how important reading is to you!

Explore new vocabulary.

Children love challenges, if there happens to be a word they don't know how to say or what it means, discuss the word and use your talk as an additional learning experience. Don't be afraid to read a more difficult book to your child for variety and excitement.

Discuss the story parts.

What did you like or dislike about the story? What happened in the story? What would you like to change in the story if you could? What surprised you? What confused you? Have your child predict what the story will be about. Discuss vocabulary words that aren't familiar. Ask questions while reading (who, what, when, where, why).

Make reading a routine.

Reading should be a daily event. Schedule time every day for your special reading time. Turn off the television and set aside electronic devices to eliminate distractions.

Share your reading time together.

Make sure your child has a lot of books at a comfortable reading level. You can read to your child, your child can read to you, or you can take turns reading. Point out important points in the book. Show your enthusiasm for your child's reading. Read and re-read favorite books. This builds confidence for readers.

Find words to read everywhere!

Reading does not only happens in books; words are all around us (signs, billboards, buildings, etc.).

