



Reach Out and Read Reading Tips for Parents

Parents can easily make reading with their children a daily part of their routine. Here are some suggestions for making reading a natural and pleasurable part of daily life.

■ **Make Reading a Part of Every Day!**

A few minutes of reading at bedtime or waiting for appointments makes a difference.

■ **Have Fun While Reading**

Reading books should be a pleasure not a chore. Books that are too long or boring don't need to be finished. Find a book you and your child will both enjoy.

■ **Books: Always There for You**

Small children sometimes want to run around while listening to a story or want to stop listening. You can always finish reading later.

■ **Let Your Child Choose the Book**

Letting your child choose the books to be read is a terrific way to let children see books as important and a pleasure.

■ **Talk About the Pictures**

Ask your child to identify items in the illustrations as a way to engage them.

■ **Ask Questions about the Story**

Children love to show you how much they know; ask what will happen next in a story.

■ **Let Your Child Ask Questions**

Use stories as a way to engage in conversation about ideas brought up in the story.

■ **Make the Story Come Alive**

Create voices for each of the characters. Engage listeners by making silly noises to go along with the story. Allow yourself to have fun while reading aloud to children.

■ **Let Your Child Tell You the Story**

Children as young as 3 years old can memorize a story and tell it to you. Let them be the storyteller.