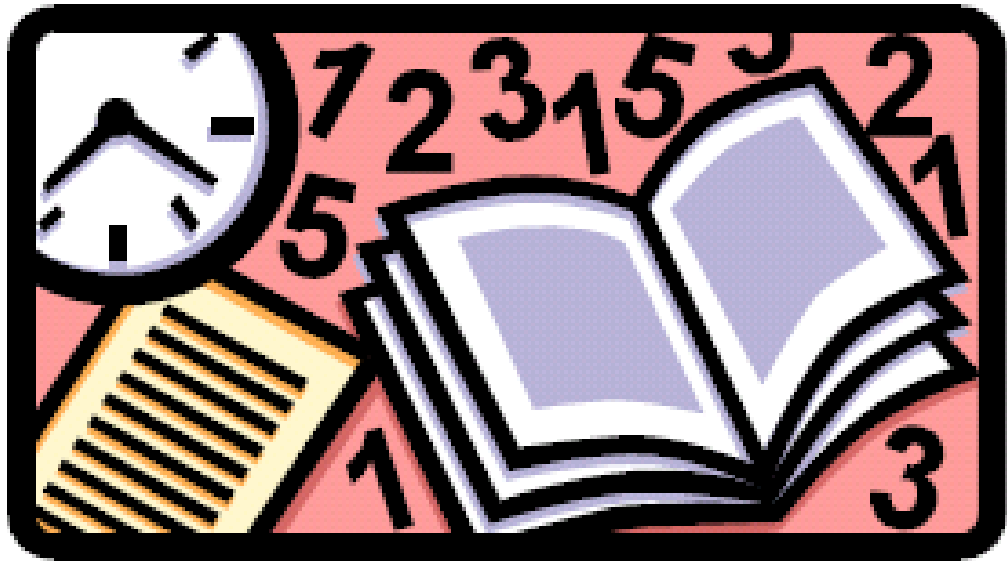


Stress Free Reading At Home



A Handbook for Parents



You may have tangible
Wealth untold;
Caskets of jewels and
Coffers of gold.
Richer than I
You can never be -
I had a parent who
Read to Me.

The Building Blocks For Learning to Read



Young children learn best through play. Learning how to read and write begins when they are babies. They love learning new words and naturally play with sounds, letters and rhymes. By the time they reach Kindergarten, children often know:

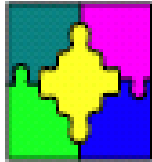
- Many nursery rhymes and poems e.g., "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"
- How to re-tell favorite stories or can "pretend" to read a book.
- That reading is basically "talk written down"
- That letters of the alphabet each have their own sound
- That we read books from front to back and left to right



**Children Learn to Talk By
Interacting With Adults**

Children Learn to Read by

Being Read TO



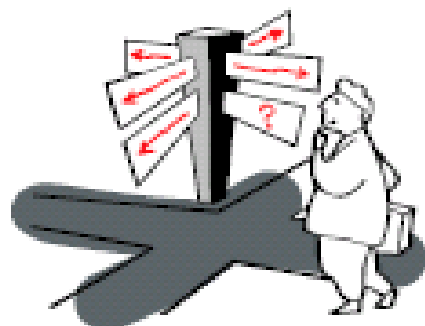
AND BY

READING!



Relax and Have fun

From birth to old age we love being read to.
It's another way of bonding of connection to one another.



There's Lots to Read

ABC Books, Fairy Tales, Poems, Shopping Lists, Recipes, comics, Family photo albums, Newspapers, Magazines, Fridge Magnets, Word, Symbols and letters in our homes and communities.



There's lots to Do

Re-reading favourite books over and over again, playing word and guessing games on car trips, listening to recorded books, telling and writing down family stories, playing board and card games, sharing jokes and making up your own stories.



The Reading Game Plan

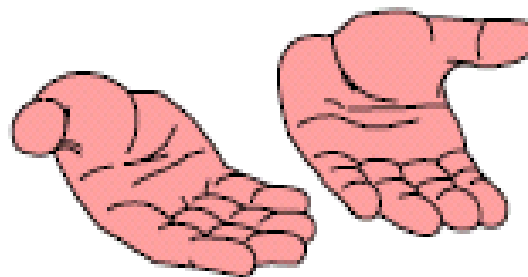
Ready to read together?

How to Choose A Book

If your child is going to read to you, it is important that the book is not too hard and is on your child has chosen. Follow the rule of five...

The Rule of FIVE

If there are five words on the page, which you child cannot read, the book is too hard and will only cause frustration. Choose an easier book, or this is one you could read to your child.



Warm Up the Book

LOOK
AT

Title The Cover



Words and Ideas

Pictures

Author

As you
look,
Ask
questions

- What do you think this story might be about?
- What is happening now?
- What might happen next?
- What do you think could happen in the end?



If you are reading a science or “fact book”
Ask:

- What do we already know about this?
- What would you like to learn?

After Talking About the Book You Can...

Read the Book to your child or:



READ TOGETHER

- **In unison – like you were singing together. This can be used with those harder books your child is determined to read**
- **Taking turns with the same passage (my turn, your turn). Relax – memorizing is the beginning of the process for younger children. For older children, repeated reading builds speed and confidence.**
- **Silently first, then out loud.**

OR

Your child can read to you – do what works!

Pause ~ Prompt ~ Praise

If your child makes a mistake or gets muddled while reading

Pause

*Let him or her try to solve the problem alone.
If he or she can't read the word...*

Then you can ~prompt~ by saying:

- 1. Let's try again.*
- 2. Read on to the end of the sentence and think of a word that makes sense.*

If he/she loses meaning while reading, stop them and say...

Listen to what you said...

- Did that sound right?*
- Did that make sense?*

After two unsuccessful tries, give them the correct word.

Always ~ Praise ~ your child:

Be honest and specific when you use praise:

I like the way you went back and fixed that up.

You read that very smoothly.

You substituted a word that makes sense

Try phrases such as:

That's the way good readers read.

I like the way you worked that out.

I'm proud of you!

What I can do when I don't
Know a word...



...Look at the picture



...Guess it using the first
letters

The quick
brown fox
jumped over
the fence.

...Read the sentence again



...Skip it, go on reading and
then go back

B - all

...Sound it out



...Ask someone

You Don't Need to Correct Every Mistake

If your child makes a mistake and it makes sense let him or her keep reading, e.g.

"Sarah slept over at Amy's home"
instead of
"Sarah slept over at Amy's house"

It makes sense and the sentence still means the same thing.

If your child makes a mistake and it doesn't make sense...

- | | |
|------|---|
| Wait | Let your child read to the end of the sentence. |
| Ask | Does that make sense? Does that sound right? |

Encourage self-correction

But if necessary say the work for your child so you will both continue to enjoy and understand the story.

Does Your Child Understand What is Read?

Can your
child:



Who, what, where,
when why & How

- Predict and guess what will happen next
- Say what the problem was in the story?
- What was the solution?
- What happened in the beginning, the middle and the end?
- Does your child have an opinion? Share your thoughts and opinions.

Build Confidence



- Relax and make reading fun.
- Help out in a positive way.
- Find something to praise about your child's reading.
- Respect your child's thoughts, ideas and individuality.

Remember Phonics?

Many common words in our language are not phonetic. Words like was, tough to and one cannot be "sounded out". They don't follow any "rules" and need to be memorized over time. Here are some rules your child will learn.

The Short Vowel A as in apple

Sounds E as in egg

I as in itchy

O as in Octopus

U as in umbrella

Long Vowel When the vowels "say their own name"
Sounds they are said to be "long". Vowels are normally long when:

1. A vowel is followed by one consonant and an e. This called the "bossy e or silent e" rule. Words like
Hop...hope tub...tube
Can...cane rip...ripe...ripen
2. When two vowels come together in a word, the first one says it's name (is long) and the second one is usually silent.
Seal, pain, load, peach, rail

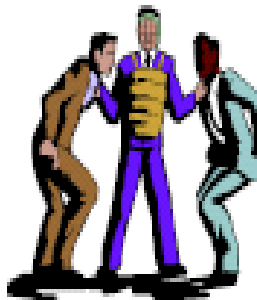
Remember – Practice and Patience!

Confidence is the Key to Success

Remember,
Mistakes are
for learning

- Every child learns differently, don't compare yours to others.
- Just like learning to ride a bike, how to swim or tie a shoe, learning to read takes practice.
- Be your child's cheerleader and advocate.
- Focus on the positive
- Discuss any concerns with the classroom or learning assistance teacher.
- Have your child's eyesight and hearing tested.

Avoid Power
Struggles



You'll never win

- It's okay to stop if reading becomes a chore

BUT

TRY AGAIN TOMORROW!

Tips From Other Parents



Read with expression - " ham it up " - use different voices.

Put a reading light on your child's bedside table.

Buy books as gifts, and encourage others to give books as gifts.

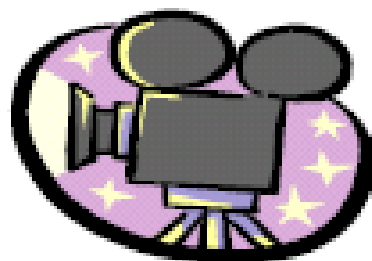
Exchange books wit friends and neighbours, or at the second hand bookstore. Get a library card for yourself and your children.

Let your children see you reading and enjoying it.

Read aloud isn't just for moms. Dads need to show that reading is a "guy thing" too.

Take books on car trips, to the dentist and Doctor's offices and on a holiday. Listen to recorded stories when in the car.

Watch a movie together and then read the book.





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Reasons to read to your child tonight



1. Because when you hold them and give them this attention, they know you love them.
2. Because reading to them will encourage them to become readers.
3. Because children books are so good that they are fun even for adults.
4. Because illustrations in children' book often rank with the best, giving children a lifelong feeling for good art.
5. Because books are one way of passing on your values.
6. Because books will enable your child's imagination to soar.
7. Because, until they learn to read themselves, they will think you are magic.
8. Because every teacher and librarian they ever encounter will thank you.
9. Because they might turn off the T.V.
10. Because you'll get a chance to read some great books you missed when you were a kid.