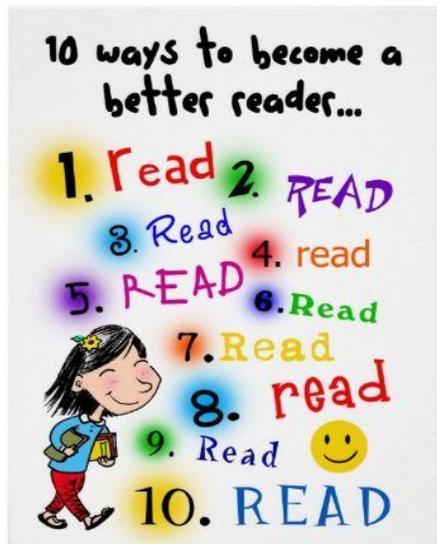


How can I help my child learn to read?

Reading books aloud is one of the best ways you can help your child learn to read. This can be fun for you too! The most important thing to remember is to let your child set her own pace and have fun at whatever she is doing. Try doing the following when reading to your child:

- Run your finger under the words as you read to show your child that the print carries the story.
- Use funny voices and animal noises. Do not be afraid to ham it up! This will help your child get excited about the story.
- Stop to look at the pictures; ask your child to name things she sees in the pictures. Talk about how the pictures relate to the story.
- Invite your child to join in whenever there is a repeated phrase in the text. Read the story again (and again, and again.) My 3 year old granddaughter loves The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle. She retells the story using the pictures and running her finger over the words!
- If your child asks a question, stop and answer it.
- Keep reading to your child even after she learns to read. A child can listen and understand more difficult stories than she can read on her own.



Helping Your
Child Learn to
Read



Talk to Your Child (a Lot)

Reading is a language activity, and if you want to learn language, you'd better hear it, and eventually, speak it. Exposing your child to a variety of words helps in the development of a good reader.

Children's knowledge of letter names and shapes is a strong predictor of their success in learning to read.

Promote writing.

Literacy involves reading and writing. It's helpful to have pencils, crayons, markers, and paper. Encourage your child to write. One way to do this is to write notes or short letters to her. It won't be long before he is trying to write back to you.

Reading Tips

Here are a few tips to keep in mind when your child learns to read:

Set aside time every day to read together. Bedtime is great, but when you get home from work or while a sibling is napping works too.

Leave books in your child's room for him to enjoy on his own.

Read books that your child enjoys.

Magnetic Letter Activities

Sort – so many ways!

- color,
- have holes
- have curves
- straight lines
- vertical lines
- tails
- letters
- uppercase versus lowercase,
- in my name/not in my name.

Make my name

Make names of family members

An ABC Chart or printables from the internet are very helpful to these activities.

