

Did you know...



Vocabulary is knowing the names of things, and is developed as you help your child build words out of letters and letter sounds. Most children enter school knowing between 3,000 and 5,000 words. Developing a strong vocabulary helps your child as they learn to read.

When you think about it, you know that you are reading a word correctly if you have heard it before. The more words children hear, the more ready they will be to make connections between sounding out words and knowing they are pronouncing them correctly.

The best way to help your child build vocabulary is to talk and read with them.



Here's how...



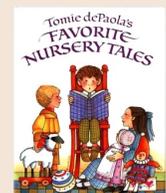
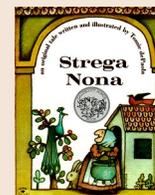
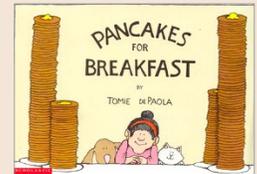
- ❖ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day. Children's books have more rare words than everyday conversations. Talk about the stories and the pictures in the books.
- ❖ Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings, and ideas. Listen when your child talks to you.
- ❖ Learn together by reading information or nonfiction books. Help your child pick out books about things he or she is interested in.
- ❖ Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you.

Read



Pancakes for Breakfast, by Tomie de Paola

Pancakes are a favorite breakfast food for many children. This wordless book takes children through the routine of making pancakes and solving the problems that arise in the process. Reading books without words gives you the opportunity to create a new story every time you read the book.



Choose Books



More wordless books to read...

Chalk, by Bill Thomson

The Lion and the Mouse, by Jerry Pinkney

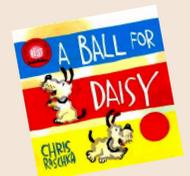
A Ball for Daisy, by Chris Raschka

Where's Walrus, by Stephen Savage

The Alphabet, by Monique Lewis

The Red Book, by Barbara Lehman

The Line, by Paula Bossio



Talk



Let your child help you with meal preparation and talk to them as you do it. Ask or tell them the names of the ingredients you are using, or the foods you are preparing. Talk to them about color, size, and smell of the food.

Write



The woman in this story wanted pancakes for breakfast. Help your child make a menu for the week of foods they would like to eat. They can write it by copying the words you write, or having you say each letter out loud as they write. Making lists is a fun way to practice writing.

Sing



Johnny Works with One Hammer

(Pretend to hammer with one hand)

Johnny works with one hammer,
one hammer one hammer
Johnny works with one hammer,
Johnny works with two.

(Hammer with two hands)

Johnny works with two hammers,
two hammers two hammers
Johnny works with two hammers,
Johnny works with three.

(Use two hands and one leg to hammer)

Johnny works with three hammers,
three hammers three hammers
Johnny works with three hammers,
Johnny works with four.

(Use both hands and both legs to hammer)

Johnny works with four hammers,
four hammers four hammers
Johnny works with four hammers,
Johnny works with five.

(Use both hands, both legs, and head)

Johnny works with five hammers,
five hammers five hammers
Johnny works with five hammers,
Johnny's work is DONE!

Play



Make pancakes with your child, either from a mix, from the book, or by using the recipe below. Let your child help you measure and mix the ingredients.

- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 3½ teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon white sugar
- 1¼ cups milk
- 1 egg
- 3 tablespoons butter, melted

1. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, baking powder, salt and sugar. Carefully pour in the milk, egg and melted butter; mix until smooth.
2. Heat a lightly oiled griddle or frying pan over medium high heat. Pour the batter onto the griddle, using about ¼ cup for each pancake. Brown on both sides and serve hot.



At your library...



Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “Building a Community of Readers.” Libraries across the state are planning fun events that celebrate family reading.

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 16—22, 2014.