



More tips on reading with your child

- Invite your child to read with you often.
- Follow your child's interest.
- Read in short, consistent times rather than long, random periods of time.
- Get comfortable! Get cozy! Make this an enjoyable time together.
- If you are grouchy or in a hurry, it is better to wait for a more peaceful time together.
- Use three praises for every correction! Praise attempts even if they are unsuccessful.
- Play games that involve reading. Read cereal boxes, comics, or other things together in addition to books.
- Follow the five finger rule when they are reading to you. If they make five reading errors (without self correcting) in a paragraph (or page) it's probably too challenging. Go with an easier title --you want to help build their reading confidence so "easy" books are fine.
- Preview stories before reading them. Do not focus on reading the words at this time! Just talk about the book. As an adult, this is your chance to "front load" the child with phrases they will encounter. Try to pick out at least one phrase per page to front load children with.
- Break up the reading time by having them read a paragraph or page, and then you take a turn. Try different things like having them clap or tap your leg when they want a break and you read for a while. Reading is a lot of work for beginners and breaks help them rest their eyes and brains!
- Stop periodically and ask them: Is this story turning out like we thought it would? What is it about? What is happening? Talk about the funny parts, the sad parts, or the scary parts.
- At the end of the story, have the child summarize what the story was about. What was the problem or the most important thing that happened? How did it end?

