

Did you know ...



Vocabulary is knowing the names of things and ideas. Most children enter school knowing several thousand 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, knowing they are pronouncing them correctly, and understanding what the words mean.

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

Here's how ...

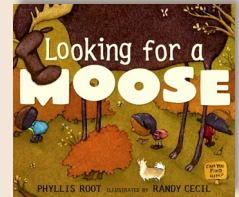


- ✦ Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you. Talk about the stories and the pictures in the books.
- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day. Children's books have more rare words than everyday conversations or children's television programs.
- ✦ Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about feelings, ideas, and how things work. Listen with your full attention when your child talks to you.
- ✦ Look for books that teach concepts, such as numbers, colors, shapes, opposites, etc. These are things that help your child be successful in kindergarten.

Read



Looking for a Moose by Phyllis Root



Four children set off on a mission to find a moose. Through woods, swamp and brush, they wade, hike, stomp, scrape, and look as hard as they can. There just aren't any moose around ... or are there?

Other books by Phyllis Root:

One Duck Stuck

Rattletrap Car

Kiss the Cow!

Creak! Said the Bed

And more!

Choose Books



More books to build vocabulary:

Big Chickens by Leslie Helakoski

The Camping Trip by Jennifer Mann

Everybunny Dance! by Ellie Sandall

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson

Hats Are Not for Cats! by Jacqueline Rayner

The Hike by Alison Farrell

One Day in the Eucalyptus, Eucalyptus Tree
by Daniel Bernstrom

Pignic by Matt Phelan

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael
Rosen

The Wonky Donkey by Craig Smith

Talk



Children’s picture books contain more rare words than what is heard on television, in YouTube videos, or in typical conversations throughout the day. As you read with your child each day, talk about some of the rare words you run across, rather than finding simpler words to replace them. If you’re not sure what the word means, look it up together or ask someone else. This is good modeling for your child as a reader.

Write



Help your child create a map. It can be of your neighborhood, your street, or even just their bedroom. Have your child draw important landmarks and tell you about them. Label what they draw.

Sing



A Camping We Will Go

(Tune: The Farmer in the Dell)

A camping we will go.

A camping we will go.

Hi ho we’re off to the woods.

A camping we will go.

Ellie will bring the tent.

Oh Ellie will bring the tent.

Hi ho we’re off to the woods.

A camping we will go.

Grandma will bring the food.

Oh Grandma will bring the food.

Hi ho we’re off to the woods.

A camping we will go.

Continue with more camping items and names...

Hear the tune at www.bussongs.com/songs/the-farmer-in-the-dell.



Recognizing Reading Challenges



Learning to read is a challenge for many kids, but most can become good readers if they get the right help. Parents and caregivers have an important job in recognizing when a child is struggling and knowing how to find help.

What to look for:

- Difficulty rhyming
- Difficulty hearing individual sounds
- Difficulty following directions
- Difficulty re-telling a story
- Struggles to sound out most words
- Avoids reading aloud

If you think your kindergartener is struggling with learning to read, talk to their teacher sooner rather than later. The school can provide free support if needed!

From www.readingrockets.org/article/recognizing-reading-problems (2018)

At your library ...

