

Did you know ...



Studies show that children whose family and caregivers read with them every day become better readers, and children who visit their public library regularly are more likely to become library users when they grow up. When you cuddle up with your child to read a book together you are giving your child your full attention, which makes them feel safe and loved. Studies also show that children who have lots of books in their homes, which include books they own and books they borrow, have an easier time learning to read.

Here's how your family can read more:

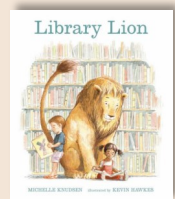


- ❖ **Collect more books.** You can find low-cost books at yard sales, thrift stores, and library book sales. Suggest books as gifts from family and friends. Make your own books using old photo albums or cardboard. Have a book swap with friends, family, neighbors, or at preschool.
- ❖ **Build a home library.** Store books where your child can reach them easily, such as a low shelf, or decorate a special box together. Pick a special place for your child's books so they know where to look for them, or put them in places where your family gathers together.
- ❖ **Visit your public library often.** Sign up for a library card if you don't have one. If you can't get one, you can still visit your library and read books together in the children's area. Make library visits a family event.
- ❖ **Make reading joyful!** Let your child choose the books that interest them. Stop reading if your child loses interest in the book.

Read



Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen



When a lion wanders into the library one day, no one is sure what to do. There aren't any rules about lions in the library! And a lion can be very useful in the library, from dusting with its tail, helping small children reach books, and making a comfy backrest for storytime. Lions are welcome in the library ... as long as they don't ROAR!

Choosing Books



Here are some fun books to read with your preschooler as a family:

Beatrice Doesn't Want To by Laura Numeroff

Book Fiesta! by Pat Mora

Chicken Story Time by Sandy Asher

Dinosaur vs. the Library by Bob Shea

Froggy Goes to the Library by Jonathan London

Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein

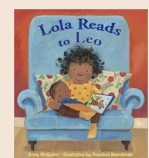
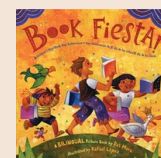
Lola Reads to Leo by Anna McQuinn

Luna Loves Library Day by Joseph Coelho

Maybe a Bear Ate It! by Robie H. Harris

No T. Rex in the Library by Toni Buzzeo

Wild About Books by Judy Sierra



Talk



Cover to Cover: Before you open a book and start reading, talk about the cover with your child. Point to the title and read it aloud. Point to the author. If you've read other books by that author, remind your child what they were. Ask your child what the story might be about, and what clues in the title or picture they used to make those predictions. You're not trying to see if your child is "right"; you're just building excitement for the story and showing that the cover tells us quite a lot about the book.

Write



Help your child write a silly tale about an animal with the title "The Day My ____ Went to the ____." Ask them to choose an animal and where that animal went. The sillier the better! Let them start with a drawing, and ask questions as they draw, such as, "Why did your (goat) want to go to the (car show)?" Let your child tell the story. Write it down, then read it together, pointing to the words as you read aloud.

Sing



If You're Happy and You Know It, Share a Book

If you're happy and you know it, share a book.
If you're happy and you know it share a book.
If you're happy and you know
and you really want to show it,
If you're happy and you know it share a book!

More verses: If you're happy and you know it ...

Sing a song Play a game
Write a story Tell a tale
Go to storytime

Hear the tune "If You're Happy and You Know It" at www.thelearninggroove.com/if-youre-happy-and-you-know-it.

Play



Counting Game

One little lion went out one day
on the grassy plains to run and play.
He thought it was so much fun
he called some friends,
who came on the run.

Two little giraffes went out one day
on the grassy plains to run and play.
They thought it was so much fun
they called more friends,
who came on the run.

Continue with this counting rhyme, adding more and more safari animals, such as three zebras, four rhinos, and five elephants.

Math connections: Use toy animals, felt cutouts, or draw pictures. Ask your child simple counting questions: How many lions and zebras are there? Are there more giraffes or more elephants?

At your library ...



Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. Ask your librarian if the library is planning special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 4 — 10, 2024.