

85 FUN, SIMPLE WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN TO READ

and love to read



1. Read aloud with your child daily.
2. Praise your child's efforts in reading.
3. Praise your child's progress in reading.
4. Encourage rather than push.
5. It's better to stop reading while the child is still interested than it is to stop after she has lost all interest.
6. Always make reading a *fun* activity.
7. Let your child see you read for pleasure.



8. Make plenty of books available in your home.
9. Put books in baskets to make it easier for your child to browse.
10. Keep reading baskets in every room of the house.
11. Rotate baskets from room to room.
12. Keep a bookshelf in your child's room.
13. Provide your child with a writing center.
14. Keep reading materials in the car at all times.
15. Label items in your house with index cards.
16. Create a reading nook or fort for your child.
17. Keep letter and word magnets on the refrigerator.



18. Make a book of company logos your child knows how to read.
19. Make a book of words they know.
20. Make a book of family members so your child can read the names.
21. Make a photo book from a vacation.
22. Make a book of words your child knows and add to it.
23. Get books related to your child's interests.
24. Make easy, just right, and challenging books available.
25. Give books as gifts.
26. Give books as rewards.
27. Let your child select the books she wants to read.
28. Make books of the stories your child creates.
29. Get a magazine subscription for your child.
30. Read emails from family members with you child.
31. Read texts from family members with your child.
32. Have your child write and read the grocery list.
33. Collect books from favorite authors.
34. Collect books from favorite series.
35. Have collections of lyrics to your child's favorite songs.
36. Read the comics with your child.
37. Leave notes for your child around the house and in her lunch.



38. Turn on the Closed Caption option of your television.
39. Always watch DVDs with the subtitles on.
40. Limit the amount of screen time your child has each day.
41. Try to limit your child's television viewing to educational programs such as *Sesame Street*.
42. Allow your child to type on the computer.
43. Keep the television out of your child's room.
44. Find books-on-CD for a read along center.

45. Have your child read on your lap or alongside you to create a positive association with books.
46. Make sure Dad reads aloud too, particularly with sons.
47. Have older siblings read aloud.
48. Have extended family members read aloud to your child with a webcam.
49. Reread favorite books together again and again.
50. Select books you both love when reading aloud.
51. Use silly, exaggerated voices.
52. Have your child read aloud books she is comfortable with to family members.



53. Talk about the book as you read aloud.
54. Ask questions as you read aloud.
55. Ask, "What do you think might happen next?"
56. Ask, "Why do you think she did that?"
57. Ask, "Can you put your finger on the word____?" after finishing a page.
58. Act confused as you are reading aloud and see if your child can help you solve the problem.
59. Discuss the cover when reading a book for the first time.
60. React to a read aloud by saying things like, "That was strange. I wonder why that happened."
61. Don't read aloud too quickly.
62. Sound out tricky words when reading aloud together.
63. Share things from the newspaper or your own book with your child.
64. Let your child participate as much as possible when reading aloud.
65. Stop and let your child provide the word at predictable moments.
66. Point to words as you read aloud.
67. Occasionally point out word features as you read aloud.
68. Ask what is happening in the picture after you turn a page.
69. Talk about favorite books and authors together.
70. Retell stories after you've read them.
71. Point out names and words on buildings.



72. Communicate with your child's teacher frequently.
73. Be a guest reader at your child's school.
74. Go to the library together often.
75. Get your child her own library card.
76. Go to story time at the library together.
77. Go to museums with your child.
78. Attend a children's theater production together.



79. Play word games together.
80. Use Scrabble tiles to make words with your child.
81. Practice making new words by changing one letter (e.g., CAP -> MAP).
82. Give your child word searches.
83. Make a game of finding words that rhyme.
84. Make a game of finding words that start with the same sound.
85. Play the / Spy game together ("I spy something that starts with buh-buh-buh-B").

