Just Take 20 to Make Reading a Regular Routine!

The habits and dispositions your child forms while he or she is young and impressionable will last a lifetime! Help your child develop the love of reading that leads to lifelong literacy by making reading a regular part of your family’s daily routine. Reading experts recommend kids read at least 20 minutes every day. If you make reading for 20 minutes a daily routine your child will read over 3,600 minutes in a year. Wow! You can also add some variety to your routine by reading to your child on some days, having your child read to you on other days, or doing a combination of both by taking turns reading to each other. See the suggestions below to help foster your child’s love of reading and to make it special, fun and purposeful!

How to establish a daily reading routine:
1. Select a special time for reading each day.
2. Choose a comfortable place where you can read together.
3. Find a great book. If you are reading to your child, choose a book that your child will enjoy. You may be tired of your child’s favorite book, but he or she is not. If your child is reading to you, choose a book that is easy for your child to read so that sharing books at home is an enjoyable event. When your beginning reader encounters a difficult word, provide the word to keep the story moving and enthusiasm for reading high.
4. During and after reading, check for understanding. Choose one or two questions to start a discussion such as:
   • What happened in the book?
   • Who was the book about?
   • What was your favorite part of the book?
   • Did you like this book? Why or why not?

You can use the printable bookmark on the next page to remember these helpful tips. Reading can be quite challenging for a beginning reader so be patient and offer lots of encouragement. Enjoy your time together and have fun establishing the routine of daily reading that leads to lifelong literacy.
Just Take 20 Reading Together Bookmarks

Print out this page on heavier paper (if possible) and trim around the dashed lines for three helpful bookmarks!

Make **Reading A Regular Routine!**

1. Special Time
2. Comfortable Place
3. Great Book
4. Ask questions to Start Discussions

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