



Top Ten Tips to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader

1. Read more!

- Make reading fun!
- Read together every day.
- Tell your child, “You are a good reader!”
- You are your child’s role model. Let your child see you reading.

2. Ask questions before reading.

- “What do you think the book will be about?”
- “What do you think will happen to the character on the cover?”
- “What does the title mean?”
- “Why do you think the author chose that title?”

3. Ask questions while reading.

- “Why does that boy look so sad?”
- “What is that mom looking for?”
- “What does ‘endangered’ mean?”
- “Where is that train going?”

4. Make predictions.

- “I think that she will win the race.”
- “I think he will find the treasure.”
- “I think that Keesha will tell the truth.”
- “I think the hikers are going to get lost in the cave.”

5. Point to the words.

- This will help your child match your spoken words with the printed words. Use this tip mainly on short texts with large print for younger kids.
- For older kids, try placing a bookmark under a line of text and moving it down to the next line on the page as you read.

6. Make connections to your own lives.

- “That dog reminds me of Hector’s dog.”
- “This reminds me of dinner at our house.”
- “Your favorite color is green too!”

7. Make connections to other books:

- “Charlotte, the spider, is smart and helpful but Anansi, the spider, is tricky.”
- “The Magic Tree House is similar to the story of The Time Machine because people are able to travel to other times and places.”

8. Visualize and create sensory images.

- “Close your eyes and picture this castle your head. Can you see it?”
- “Can you smell that grass right after it is cut?”
- “Imagine how loud the fire alarm is. Can you hear it?”
- “Can you feel that freezing wind on your face?”

9. Reflect on the book.

- “Did you like it or not? Why?”
- “Retell the story in your own words.”
- “Would you be interested in reading more books by this author?”

10. Revisit favorite books again and again!

- Studies show that kids benefit from reading the same easy books repeatedly.
- Each time you reread a book you can focus on a different aspect of it.

Come read with us!
Visit JustTake20.org for more fun reading activities!

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