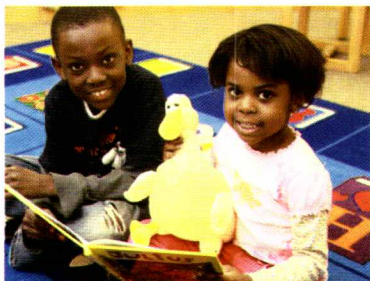


Reading



Every **CHILD**
Ready to **READ**
@ your library®

Shared reading is the single most important activity that you can do to help children get ready to read, even from birth! Remember to keep the interaction around the book a positive one. When children have positive experiences around books and reading they are more likely to stick with learning to read when they get to school, even if it is difficult.

Books have different words than the words of conversation so children learn more words when you read books to them. Some board books for babies actually do not have many words, so you would add some to those on the page. In this way you are developing your children's vocabulary.

Reading books helps develop children's background knowledge. When you read story books, they learn the structure of story so that when they are asked to write a story in school they know what to do. When you read factual books with young children you respond to their curiosity and help them learn about the world.

When pointing to the words in the title or a repeated phrase you support print awareness. You can point out letters in any book or share alphabet books to support letter knowledge. Many books for young children include the sounds of animals and have rhymes, both of which support phonological awareness.

As you read with children, you have the opportunity to support their pre-reading skills in little ways that add up to make a difference by the time children enter school. Visit your public library for books your librarian is knowledgeable and delighted to help. Using the five practices (Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing and Playing) to support the early literacy skills in enjoyable ways is the best way to help children enter school ready to learn to read.

You might also share the book from Tumblebooks library or the book of the day on DaybyDayva.org.

Discover some ideas at DaybyDayVa.org.

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