



How to Read With Your Child

- 1. Read slowly and naturally.** Pronounce the words carefully.
- 2. Read with interest.** Make your voice expressive. If you are interested, your child will be, too.
- 3. Use different voices.** Give different voices or other qualities to the different characters in the story. Let your child come up with different voices.
- 4. Follow the words with your finger.** This shows your child that spoken words can be represented as written words. Your child will learn to associate the sounds of speech with specific letters and letter combinations.
- 5. Pause in your reading and encourage your child to talk about the pictures, story, and characters.** Answer your child's questions. Ask your child to predict what will happen or to imagine different events or endings for the book.
- 6. Follow up on what you've just read.** Give your child drawing materials to illustrate events or characters of the book. Encourage your child to act out parts of the book or do things the way a character might. Visit the kinds of places and do the kinds of things that appear in the book. Make up stories and play games that build on the book's ideas.