

Connecting with Your Child Through Reading

Why Read with Children?

There are many benefits of reading with our children.

→ Brain Development

Every time you talk, sing, read, or play with your child their brain is building more connections.

→ Language

Reading with your child increases their vocabulary. The number of words a child knows is connected to their school success. Reading even 15 minutes a day makes a difference.

→ Literacy Skills

Reading with your child helps them develop listening skills and the ability to focus. They become familiar with books and learn more words. These skills improve your child's reading success.

→ Bonding

Reading together is a warm, loving experience for both your child and you. Enjoy it whenever you can!

→ Knowledge

Through books, we can expose our children to new topics. Both parent and child learn when they read together.

→ Love of Reading

When we read with our children, we model the value of reading and show our children learning is important.



Tips for Reading Aloud

Interactive reading is a way to read with children that gets them involved in the story. The parent's job is to follow the child's interests and encourage the child to talk.



Here are some ideas:

1. Comment and ask questions.

"The dog is looking behind the door. What do you think he sees?"

2. Respond to your child's comments.

"I don't know where Spiderman is. Let's see if we can find him!"

3. Be silly and dramatic!

In a scared voice, "On the cover, what did that say? Did that say there will be a MONSTER at the end of this book???"

4. Go off-script! Add to the story or make up your own.

"The dog is looking out the window. The baby is watching the dog. What are they going to do?"

5. Talk about the pictures. Count things on the page.

"I see a red balloon. What do you see in the picture?"

"Look at the birds. Let's count them 1, 2, 3. There are 3 birds!"

6. Connect the story to real-life experiences.

"You like to swim, just like the child in this story."

7. Be yourself. Make mistakes. Have fun!

You do you. It's okay to make mistakes. It's a way to model learning to read. Make reading fun. Your child will love it!