

Top tips to make reading fun at home!



Read every day, even if you only have a few minutes. This models that daily reading is an important part of each day. Children also love a pleasant routine. They will look forward to this special time.



Let your child help you choose what book to read. This will help you keep the child's interest, and it makes him feel important. Visiting a library regularly makes choosing books easy and fun



Create a cosy place to read together. It can be a special chair, or even a pile of pillows.



Talk about the cover. Have your child guess what the book is about. Who are the characters? What is the title? Who is the author? Have you read books by this author before? Have you seen this illustrator before?



Change your voice to go with the characters and the action. You don't have to be an actor, but you can at least change your inflection for a livelier storytelling experience. Make sure you don't read too quickly, too. You don't want to sound like you're rushing to finish.



Show the pictures as you read. Not only do the pictures help a child understand and connect to the book, the illustrations often add humour and whimsy to fiction.



After you read the book, talk about the story. Go back and look at the pictures again and talk about what happened. Point out any hard words to see if your child can figure out what they mean by looking at the surrounding words and pictures.



Try to make connections to something in the story and your life or the child's life.



Be sure to prompt your child to critique the book. Ask questions such as, *What did you like? What did you dislike? What made you laugh? What did you learn?*



Vary the genres that you read. Mix fiction and non-fiction. A child's future favourite book might be in a genre he or she has not yet experienced!



Make time to reading as a family group so all members of family are involved and engaged in the text.



Give opportunities to read recipes, football or any other children's magazines.



Allow your child to be more imaginative after reading stories by making up different beginnings, middle, ending and changing characters appearance and personalities.