

Tips for helping your child.

Write, write, write!

Ask your child to help you write out the grocery list, a thank you note to Grandma, or to keep a journal of special things that happen at home. When writing, encourage your child to use the letter and sound patterns he is learning at school.

Don't leave home without it.

Bring along a book or magazine any time your child has to wait, such as at the doctor's surgery. Always try to fit in reading!

Once is not enough.

Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately.

Dig deeper into the story.

Ask your child questions about the story you've just read. Say something like, "Why do you think Clifford did that?"

Take control of the television.

It's difficult for reading to compete with TV and video games. Encourage reading as a free-time activity.

Be patient.

When your child is trying to work out an unfamiliar word, give him or her time to do so. Remind the child to look at the picture, think about what's happening in the book and look closely at the word.

Play word games.

Have your child sound out the word as you change it from *mat* to *fat* to *sat*; from *sat* to *sag* to *sap*; and from *sap* to *sip*.

I read to you, you read to me.

Take turns reading aloud at bedtime. Kids enjoy this special time with their parents.

Gently correct your young reader.

When your child makes a mistake, gently point out the letters he or she overlooked or read incorrectly. Many beginning readers will guess wildly at a word based on its first letter.

Encourage Talking and Listening.

- Share rhymes and songs and encourage your child to join in. Save safe cardboard and household items for your child to build with. Ask your child to describe what they are building.
- Have a dress-up box for your child to use for imaginative play.
- Listen to your child and respond to their ideas with questions and ask for more information. Write down your child's stories as they tell you and encourage him or her to read it back to you.
- Cook simple things together. Read out the recipe, talk through what you are doing.

Talk about what you see and do.

Talk about everyday activities to build your child's background knowledge, which is crucial to listening and reading comprehension. Keep up a running patter, for example, while cooking together, visiting somewhere new, or after watching a TV show.

Different strokes for different folks.

Read different types of books to expose your child to different types of writing. Some kids, especially boys, prefer nonfiction books.

201 Literacy And Maths Tips Booklet.

http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/partnerships/families/201_literacy_and_maths_tips_booklet_2011fv.pdf