



## Reading Tips for Parents & Educators

Below are some "doctor-recommended" reading tips for parents with young children, courtesy of Reach Out & Read National. We encourage all parents to make reading with their child(ren) part of their daily routine.

### For Babies

#### Make reading part of every day

Read at bedtime, read on the bus or train, read before a nap, read any time!

#### A few minutes is okay

Young children can only sit for a few minutes for a story, but as they grow, they will sit longer.

#### Talk about the pictures

You do not have to read the book to tell a story.

#### Make silly sounds

Grab an animal book & practice making animal noises together.

#### Show your child the words

Run your finger under the words as you read them.

#### Let your child turn the pages

Babies need help to turn pages of board books, but when your child is 3 yrs old can do it alone.

### For children 2 yrs +

#### Ask questions about the story

What do you think will happen next?  
What is this?

#### Let your child ask questions

Use the story as an opportunity to engage in conversation about familiar activities & objects.

#### Let your child tell the story

Children as young as 3 yrs old can memorize a story, & many children love an opportunity to express their creativity.

#### Relatable books

Select books that relate to what is happening in your child's world – starting preschool, going to the dentist, or moving to a new home.

#### Take advantage of your local library

Sign your child up for a library card & expose them to thousands more children's books. Check to see if the library offers story hours or special events!

### Have fun with your child!

Create voices for the story characters  
& use your body to tell the story.

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