



# READ

## How does reading with children help them get ready to read on their own?

The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.

The more fun a child has reading books, the more likely he will become an independent reader. Read all types of books that a child might enjoy, including pop-ups, wordless books, fiction, and non-fiction.

Children who spend time with books gradually learn the book basics that will allow them to jump right into reading when they are in school.

Learning letter names, shapes, and sounds is a building block to being able to sound out words on a page. Reading books and looking at letters throughout is a great way to help children make the connection between letters and words.

Picture book texts have a higher incidence of rare and less common words than typical conversations. Multiple readings of picture books provide children with repeated exposure to new words. Providing short definitions can help children learn new words while you read.

Language games such as rhyming, tongue twisters, and playing with syllables help children begin to learn phonological awareness. Rhyming books, books that incorporate songs, and nursery rhymes all help build these skills.

Conversation before, during, and after stories, retelling, and asking children open-ended questions all help children think about the story they just read and learn sequencing.

