

PARENT TIPS



SCREENS AND STORIES

Interactive e-books and other story apps are great choices for long trips—or simply when you're on the go.



REPEAT, REPEAT, REPEAT!

Don't be surprised if your child wants to hear the same story again and again. She'll benefit in different ways from each reading!



BOOKS ARE BRAIN BOOSTERS

The more you read to your child, the more prepared for school she'll be. Also, there's the pure, simple joy of cuddling up with a loved one and falling into the world of a story.



BRING STORIES TO LIFE

When you read aloud to your child, act out scenes with body movements or sound effects. Simplify the language in any way that feels right, such as talking more slowly and repeatedly calling attention to certain words.



MAKE CONNECTIONS

Tie stories to your child's experiences ("Oh, look, Elmo is dreaming of going into space. Have you ever dreamed of flying in the sky?").



MY STORY

Invite your child to tell you stories she's made up. Write them down (perhaps one sentence per page), staple pages together, and have her illustrate them. Then point out that she's the author and illustrator of the book!

WORDS ARE HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE



TALK ABOUT IT

Discuss stories after reading them. Ask your child, “What was your favorite part?” or “Can you think of another way the story might have ended?”



WHAT'S INSIDE?

Together, look at a story's cover before you begin reading it. Read the title aloud. Ask, “What do you see here? Can you tell what this story might be about?”



STRETCH!

Even when kids can read on their own, it's still great for you to read aloud together. Choose stories on topics they're interested in but with text above their reading level. This way, you stretch and expand their understanding—and jump-start their imaginations!



THE BENEFITS OF READING ALOUD

When you read aloud to your child, act out scenes with body movements or sound effects. Simplify the language in any way that feels right, such as talking more slowly and repeatedly calling attention to certain words.



TAKE BREAKS

When reading with your child, stop to ask or answer any questions. Or, if your child gets fidgety, it's okay to take a break!



MY DICTIONARY

In a notebook, keep a list of new words your child learns during your story-time sessions together.