

# Raising a Successful Reader

## part 2 Reading with Your Child



### What's the best way to help your child become a successful reader? Read. Read. Read some more!

Learning to read takes practice. Loving to read takes enthusiasm. So read with your child often and create a sense of enjoyment, wonder—even a passion for reading.

Here are some easy, practical ways you can increase your child's skills and love for reading.

#### For the younger child

- Read with your child every day possible—even babies. Give children something to look forward to by reading to them every day at the same time, if your schedule permits. If not, read to them when you can. But read!
- When you read with a young child:
  - Let your child choose which story or book to read (yes, even that well-worn favorite you might be tired of reading). Sometimes you choose.
  - Find a comfortable, well-lit place. Cuddle or sit close, and make sure you can both see the book.
  - Read aloud with expression.
  - Have your child turn the pages of the book.
  - Draw your child's attention to the pictures.
  - Move your fingers from word to word as you read.
  - Talk about the stories. Point out that a story has a beginning, middle and end.
  - Ask questions about the people and places (characters and settings) in the stories. Have your child describe what's happening (the plot).
  - Make reading time fun — a time that you both look forward to spending together.



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