

# Help Your Child Become a Better Reader

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- Make sure your child spends at least fifteen minutes reading everyday.
- Take time to listen to your child read aloud every night.
- Read aloud to your child as often as possible. Remember that children of all ages love to hear books read aloud.
- Praise your child for reading smoothly, accurately, and with expression.
- Remind your child to point to the words as s/he reads them.
- When your child comes to an unknown word help your child sound it out. If needed say, "Does that make sense? Let's try again. I'll help you."
- Talk about what you read. Ask questions. Language and thinking skills develop when children talk.
- Get a library card for your child. Visit the library often.
- Keep some books in the car for your child to read while driving, or while waiting while running errands.
- Make sure your child owns books. Give your child his or her own place to keep books. Consider giving your child a book for a special occasion.
- Encourage your child to read to others.
- Monitor television watching and video game playing. Set and enforce time limits.
- Listen to your child. Your attention will build your child's self confidence.
- Subscribe to a children's magazine in your child's name.