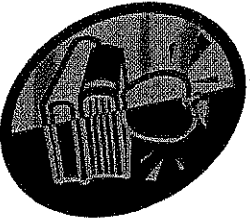


Reading Tips

Things you should do while reading to and with your child:

- Talk about the front of the book, the author, and the illustrator.
- Show them directionality by pointing to words and/or sliding your finger.
- Talk about punctuation and read fluently and with expression.
- Talk with your child about characters, the setting, the problem, the solution, and the sequence of the story.
- Ask your child to retell the story in their own words.
- Think aloud as you read the book, "I wonder what will happen...," "This reminds me of..."
- Ask your child to describe the pictures they are seeing as they read.
- Talk about the print, not the picture, as the print contains the message.
- Show them the difference between letters and words.



Prompts to Use When Your Child Gets Stuck on a Word

- You said.... Can we say it that way? Does that look right?
- Look at the picture. What word would make sense?
- Do you know another word that looks like that one?
- Have you chunked it? Do you see any parts of the word you already know? This usually includes:
 - beginning blends (example—ch, wh)
 - vowel pairs (example—ee, oa)
 - endings (example—ing, ed)
- Do you see any little words hidden inside of the big word?
- Go back to the beginning of the sentence and reread. What word would make sense in the story?

NOTE:

If your child is not successful with one of the strategies above, just say the word. Spending too much time and energy on a word may cause your child to forget what the story is about.

Also, if your child is reading a book and misses more than 5 out of 50 words, the book is probably too difficult. This is a book that you should read aloud to your child.

When reading aloud, encourage your child to stop you if they do not understand the meaning of a word. By taking the time to explain the meaning of a word, it will help build your child's vocabulary, which will help them become a better reader.

How to Help Your Child Comprehend the Text

After your child has read or listened to a story, ask questions such as:

- What happened first in the story? What happened last? What event(s) took place in the story?
- Where did the story take place?
- Who were the characters in the story? Tell me something important about each one of them.
- Was this story make-believe or could this story really happen? How do you know?
- Why do you think the author wrote this story?
- What did this story make you think of?
- What is the main or most important idea in the book you just read?

NOTE:

If your child has difficulty telling the story in his/her own words or answering the questions, have them read the story again. Help your child find the information in the text that helps to answer the questions.