

Helpful tips for reading aloud to your child



Reading aloud is one of the most effective ways you can help your child understand the importance of reading. Plus, he'll enjoy the stories—and you'll both love the time you spend together!

When reading aloud with your child:

- **Begin with simple picture books.** As your child's interests develop and mature, you can read more complex stories together.
- **Read with expression.** Change the tone and pitch of your voice. Slow or quicken your speed to match what's happening in the story.
- **Stop reading** if your child seems bored or starts to fidget more than usual—and pick another book. You don't have to finish a book just because you started it!



- **Allow time to talk before and after reading.** Talk about what you're going to read. Ask your child to guess what the book might be about from the title or the pictures. Afterward, encourage him to ask questions.
- **Give your child a chance to read** aloud to you, or practice reading aloud on his own. Even if he can't read words yet, he can look at pictures and make up a story to go along with them.