

10 Reading Tips for Parents of Young Children

from "Reading is Fundamental" www.rif.org

1. Read aloud to your child every day

- Read to babies even before they can talk
- Let your child see and touch the book
- Play with voices and the sounds of words



2. Create a print rich home environment

- Have a wide variety of books available to children
- Encourage children to look at books on their own
- Set aside a family reading area and a family reading time

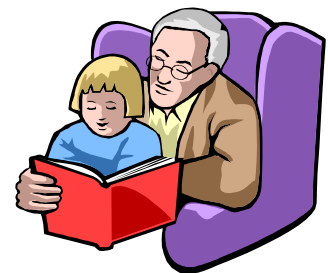


3. Model reading and writing

- Make use of the family reading area on your own
- Let children see you reading for work or to learn something
- Let children see you reading for pleasure

4. Use grocery shopping to encourage reading

- Have children help you search for specific brands
- Use the aisle markers with your child to find items
- Match coupons to products



5. Cook with your child to develop literacy

- Show your child how to read a recipe
- Read the labels on ingredients together
- Make a family cookbook of favorite recipes



6. Explore books together

- As you read, point out important features about the book
- Ask your child questions
- Point out new vocabulary



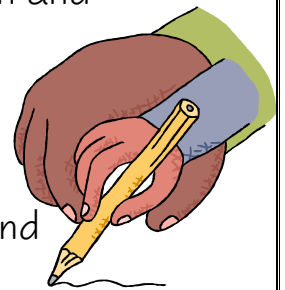
7. Tell stories together

- Talk together about your family history
- Look at old vacation photos and discuss your memories of the trip
- Tape your storytelling



8. Sing and rhyme with your child

- Choose songs with rhymes and word play
- Play rhyming games with your child what other words sound like monkey?
- Challenge your child to sing or say rhymes as fast as he can and don't forget to laugh if the results come out silly



9. Write with your child

- Provide lots of writing materials: chalk, markers, crayons, and pencils
- Encourage your child to draw and write on her own
- Encourage your child to write thank you notes to grandparents, make to do lists and shopping lists

10. Visit the library often

- Make weekly trips
- Encourage your child to get her own library card.
- Take advantage of library programs such as read-alouds and family book clubs

