

Ideas on how to read with your child at home

1. Choose the right book using the "five-finger rule"

Ask your child to open the book at any page around the middle of it and read that page. Each time a word is not known, a finger should be raised. If five fingers are raised before the child finishes reading the page, the book is too hard. If no fingers are raised, the book is probably easy for your child but can be used to build reading fluency. If two or three fingers are held up, the book is likely to be at a good level for your child's reading to improve.

2. Use sound strategies to tackle a new word

Ask your child to sound out an unknown word. Look at the letters in a difficult word and ask your child to pronounce each sound or phoneme. Then, see if your child can blend the sounds together to pronounce the word. Offer help to memorize irregular words. Explain that words like *where*, *hour*, or *sign* are hard to sound out since they don't follow normal sound patterns.

3. Use the story to help your child learn

Ask your child what word or idea would make sense in the plot of the story if he/she gets stuck on an unfamiliar word. Encourage your child to look at illustrations, pictures, titles, or graphs to figure out the meaning of new words.

4. Give support and encouragement

Challenge your child to figure out new words, but always supply the word before he/she becomes frustrated. After your child has read a story, reread it aloud yourself so that he can enjoy it without interruption.

5. Be a good role model

Let your child see you reading, and share your excitement when you enjoy a great book of your own.

6. Make reading a priority

Whether it's 10 minutes every night before bed or an hour every Sunday morning, it helps to set aside a specific time for reading.

7. Create the right atmosphere

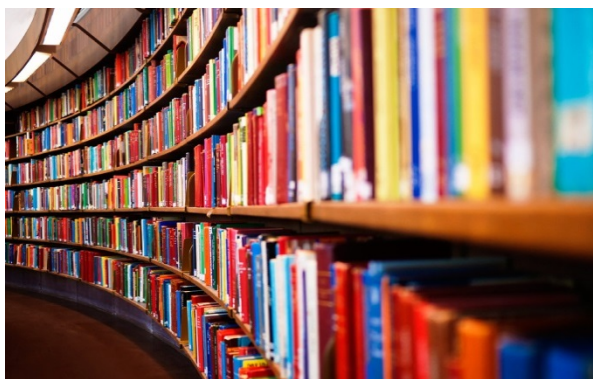
Find a quiet comfortable place to listen to your child read.

8. Make reading fun

Play around with funny voices to impersonate animals or unusual characters in stories. Take children to the library to enjoy a selection of books.

9. Keep reading aloud to your child

10. Introduce new books



Some Suggested Books

Year 5/6

Book	Author
Skellig	David Almond
Artemis Fowl	Eoin Colfer
The Witches	Roald Dahl
Millions	Frank Cottrell Boyce
Matilda	Roald Dahl
Stig of the Dump	Clive King
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis
Goodnight Mister Tom	Michelle Magorian
The Borrowers	Mary Norton
Holes	Louis Sachar
The Story of Tracy Beaker	Jacqueline Wilson

Year 3/4

Book	Author
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl
The Twits	Road Dahl
Billy the Kid	Michael Morpurgo
The Hundred Mile an Hour Dog	Jeremy Strong
Charlotte's Web	EB White
Horrid Henry Series	Francesca Henry
Mr Majeika	Humphrey Carpenter
Please Mr Butler	Allan Ahlberg
Fungus the Bogeyman	Raymond Briggs
Mr Stink	David Walliams
Diary of a Wimpy Kid	Jeff Kinney

Year 1/2

Book	Author
The Cat in the Hat	Dr Seuss
Hairy Maclary	Lynley Dodd
Charlie and Lola	Lauren Child
The Gruffalo's Child	Julia Donaldson

The Gigantic Turnip	Aleksei Tolstoy
The Trouble with Jack	Shirley Hughes
Avocado Baby	John Burningham
Funnybones	Allan Ahlberg
The Hodgeheg	Dick King-Smith
Mister Magnolia	Quentin Blake
The Jolly Postman	Allan Ahlberg

EYFS

Book	Author
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?	Bill Martin Jnr
The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle
Owl Babies	Martin Waddell and Patrick Benson
Where the Wild things are	Maurice Sendak
The Tale of Peter Rabbit	Beatrix Potter
Stone Soup	Marcia Brown
We're Going on a Bear Hunt	Helen Oxenbury
Winnie the Witch	Valerie Thomas and Korky Paul
The Rainbow Fish	Marcus Pfister
I will Never Eat a Tomato	Lauren Child
One Snowy Night	Nick Butterworth