

Reading books with your child directly impacts their learning ability

Books help by providing pictures that teach new words.

Books help by providing practice for sentence formations.

Books help by providing a medium for good expression and intonation.

Books help by allowing your child to learn from continuous repetition of words.

Books help by **creating learning opportunities for sharing enjoyment of a story together.**

Good reading practices



READ EVERYDAY

Join a library

Find time to read with your baby and young child daily. If you can, join a library.

SET UP A READING CORNER

Set up a home library

Have a special area in your house where books are kept and the two of you can read.



PICK A FAVORITE BOOK

Child gets to choose

Follow your child's lead and interests. Let him/her choose the books.

Make reading fun



Make visits to the library a regular part of your weekly routine.



Ask him/her to point to people, events or activities in the pictures.



When your child has a favorite library book, purchase the book for your home library.



Choose books with thick pages so your child can turn the pages himself/herself.



If your child points to a picture or a word, follow his/her lead and talk about it.

Read to enjoy

Repeat, repeat and repeat

Children love repetition.

If your child asks you to read the same book again and again, read that favourite book.

Express & enjoy

Read dramatically with expression and show that you are enjoying reading with your child.

Praise and encourage

Your child has worked hard to acquire his skill to read. Praise and encourage your child at every step to keep enthusiasm and motivation going.

Help connect sound with syllables

As you read, pause and play games about rhyming words or sounds.





Read along with your child at his/her own pace

Allow the child to interrupt you and discuss what you just read.

Explain the meaning of words which the child doesn't know.

For repeated phrases or rhymes, wait for the child to complete it, as you move your finger under the words.

For example say,

"the wheels of the bus go round and _",

"jack and jill went up the _"

Teach usage of words by emphasizing on them

Emphasize the important word in your question, "WHERE is Ravi going?"

Once you have given the answer on several different occasions, try providing cues instead of giving the answer.

You might have the initial sound of the answer or give the phrase that will help your child say the answer.

For example, say

"J" or "He ate the bread and" to stimulate the word "jam".



Books fuel imagination

Associate a word with the picture

Point to the name of the object on the book, then point to the picture that represents the object.



Make reading a special time. Try not to have interruptions. Sit in a favourite chair.

Colourful & vibrant print designs

Choose books that are not too long and have large print and are colourful, with interesting illustrations.









Reading is a conversation



Numbers, cases and alphabets

While reading, work on your child's ability to recognize characters from alphabets (both upper and lower case) and numbers.

Read the page numbers on each page aloud.

This will help the child build an association with the number and how it is said, which will help him/her in reading the number.

Ask questions, allow the child to be curious

After you finish reading a paragraph or a page, ask questions.

Ask your child to show you what the character is doing, and where the character is headed in the book.

If your child can't answer the question give him/her the answer.

Remember, you are reading with him/her teaching not testing.

But remember,

a book is more than just a collection of words

When a book is used only for teaching vocabulary you are denying the child the pleasure of the story, and the flow of the language as the story is read.

Don't deny him/her the opportunity to spark his/her own imagination.

HAPPY READING

Content created in collaboration between Ummeed and Nayi Disha



Ummeed, meaning 'hope,' is a non-profit organization set up with the objective of helping children with developmental disabilities or those at high risk for disabilities reach their maximum potential and be included in society.

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Nayi Disha Resource Centre

AN ONLINE INFORMATION RESOURCE
Nayi Disha Resource Centre is an online information
resource platform to promote children's development and
support families of persons with Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

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