



Helping children read

## TOP TIPS TO GET YOUR CHILDREN READING

1. **Read anywhere and everywhere.** While you are out with your children doing daily activities, read signs, letters, numbers and logos – so they know that writing means something.
2. **Don't just read books.** Read anything – newspapers, comics, magazines, emails, mobile texts, electronic devices, road signs or even shop posters.
3. **Be positive.** Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes. Turn off the TV! It's easier for your child to concentrate if there are no distractions.
4. **Children love to copy adults.** If you sit down with a book or magazine for ten minutes, it doesn't just give you a break, it sets a great example for your kids too.
5. **Don't read for too long.** A good ten minutes is better than a difficult half hour.
6. **Chat** – talk about things you see in the book – who's in it, what they did and where they went.
7. **Let them read their favourites.** It's good practice to read the same books over and over again.
8. **Act it out.** Children can act out stories, this will help them to learn to tell stories based on what they've read and heard.
9. **Ways with words.** Talk about what different words mean and tell your child the name for anything they don't know. This is how children learn new words and helps them to become better readers.
10. **Tell stories together.** Talking about your day and what you did means sharing time with your child. We tell stories all the time, both real and made up and these stories can help your child become a reader and a writer of stories.

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Acknowledgements: Thank you to Read On. Get On. Coalition members for their expertise in producing these tips, in particular, The Reading Agency, I Can and National Literacy Trust.