

Developing Reading Skills



My child can read basic words. What now?

Aims

To develop a love of reading

To encourage independent reading

To improve fluency

To improve comprehension



1. Offer Different Reading Options:

Be sure to provide your children with a variety of reading options. They may be more inspired to read books about certain topics or genres, as well as books of varying lengths. Having a few to choose from will give them the opportunity to explore their interests and find something they enjoy.

fiction
books

non-fiction

graphic novels

funny

joke books

audio books

What is the right level?

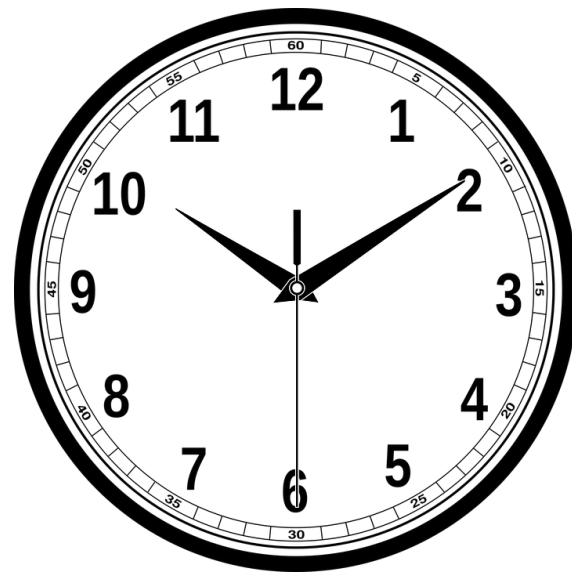
Same as child's interest level.

A level they can read easily with a few extra words that they can get in context.

Children can be put off by blocks of text. Choose chapter books that still have pictures or larger font.

2. Set Aside Time to Read:

Setting time aside to read is great for anyone, any age! Show your child that it's important to make time to read for fun by doing so yourself. Seeing you read will help to encourage their own reading and can even become a part of your family routine



3. Read Aloud:

Reading aloud can be fun for the reader and the listener. Take turns reading aloud by using different voices and reading in an interesting way. While it may seem silly at first, this can help build excitement and curiosity for the story. It can even make the reading experience more fun and inspire them to read more on their own to get better at their story telling!



4. Define Reading Goals:

Whether it's learning 5 new words, reading a chapter book, or even reading 10 books over the summer, there are tons of reading goals that can be set. Talk with your child about different goals they may have and help them set these.



5. Ask Questions About the Book:

It's beneficial to have discussions about the book before, during and after reading the book. This helps them get interested in the story before reading it and then keeps them engaged as they read the story. After the story concludes, it's interesting for them to see what they learned or what they found most interesting from the book. Asking questions will keep engagement up and also get them thinking more analytically about what they read.

The Takeaway - Have Fun!

Most importantly, building reading skills at home can be a lot of fun! As your children begin to explore new books, learn new words, and strengthen their skills, they will develop more confidence and be inspired to read independently. The confidence they build from regular reading practice will help your child develop a lifelong love of reading!



