

# Reading Tips for the Child in your Life

The early years of childhood are important for developing a lifelong love of reading. The tips below offer ways that you can help the child in your life strengthen language and literacy skills to become a confident reader!



## **READ FREELY**

Encourage your reader to choose books and topics that interest them.



## **CHECK OUT A LOCAL LIBRARY**

Plan a visit to the local library, which has books, resources, and often free programs and events.



## **A PICTURE IS WORTH 1,000 WORDS**

Encourage readers to choose books with visuals (picture books, graphic novels, comics). Pictures build reading comprehension by joining fewer words with visuals, which helps letter-sound relationships, vocabulary, and storytelling skills.



## **BE INTERACTIVE**

Discuss what is happening in the book or what comes next in the story, change your voice for different characters, ask questions about the story, and encourage your reader to ask questions about what you've just read.



## **TALK IT OUT**

Talk with your reader about their day at school or things in their life. You can connect what happens in the stories that you read together with what happens in life. Add words or vocabulary from the stories into your conversation to build on what you've talked about or read in the past.



## **WRITE**

Have your reader use their finger to trace a letter while saying its sound. You might use paper and pencils, a plate of sugar or sand, sidewalk chalk, or even just a finger to trace in the air.



## **READ TOGETHER EVERY DAY**

Try to read for 20 minutes a day. Reading for 20 minutes a day all year round helps grow skills.



## **PRACTICE**

Encourage your reader to practice by reading to another person, reading to a pet, listening to an audiobook, or even reciting tongue twisters!



## **READ IT AGAIN**

Encourage your reader to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading books allows children to read more quickly and accurately.

