

# 8 Tips for Reading with Preschoolers

*Sharing books together is a powerful way to connect with your children.*

Build a routine where you can set aside a book time for 10-15 minutes each day. Choose a comfortable place and give it your full attention.

1. Establish a special **reading time each day**, such as bedtime stories.
2. **Snuggle** up close together so your child can see both your face and the book.
3. **Encourage** your child to hold the book and to turn the pages.
4. **Watch and wait** to see what your child likes on each page and go with this. **Repeat** and **expand** on their ideas.
5. **Describe** what is happening at a level your child will understand. You do not have to stick with the text in the book.
6. Keep your **language** clear, use **interesting tones** in your voice, stressing new words and phrases. This will help your child pay attention to the book.
7. Ask **questions** that will focus your child and stretch their imagination 'I wonder what will happen next?' **Pause** to give your child time to respond.
8. Chat! Encourage talk that arises naturally as you read together. **Connect** the information on the page to your child's own experiences.

