

Making Family Reading Time Fun

Reading Tips for Families

Parents and families play an important role in helping students become successful readers.

Reading at home for at least 20 minutes every day can help children develop strong reading skills.

We know it can be overwhelming to know where to start, and creating a reading plan can help make reading a priority at home throughout the school year. After a long day, finding time for extra reading can be difficult, but support is out there.



Check out these tips and resources to support your efforts to read at home!

- ✓ **Set family reading goals.** Set family reading goals together with your child, such as time spent reading each day or the number of books read each month. Make sure goals are realistic and encourage the entire family to help each other stay on track—and celebrate when goals are achieved!
- ✓ **Talk about letters and sounds.** Sing rhyming songs, read rhyming books, and say tongue twisters with your child—this helps them learn new sounds in words. Help your child learn the names of the letters and the sounds the letters make. Turn it into a game! For example, you could say, “I’m thinking of a letter and it makes the sound mmmmm.”
- ✓ **Choose the right books.** Make sure the books your child is reading are just right—not too hard and not too easy. If a book is too easy, they’ll get bored, and if it’s too hard, they’ll get frustrated. Talk with your child’s teacher or a local librarian to find the best books for your child’s reading level.
- ✓ **Make sure books are around.** Your child will be more likely to pick up a book and read if they are out in the open and easy to find. Keep books readily available in the kitchen, car, and other locations where your child spends time.
- ✓ **Mix it up—and make it fun!** Sneak books and reading into fun activities. Do puzzles and games together that involve reading, or read the weather report or recipes.
- ✓ **Make reading a part of your daily schedule.** Plan consistent reading times every day to make it a part of your child’s daily schedule. Read at bedtime or spend 20 minutes reading right after dinner.
- ✓ **Ask questions.** Talk about the words in the book, what characters are doing, and what might come next in the story to help your child understand what they are reading.
- ✓ **Tell fun stories and have your child tell you stories.** It’s a great way to practice using new words. Have a family story night where everyone tells a story around a theme.
- ✓ **Have your child write.** Whether it’s a grocery list or a letter, writing helps children connect spoken words to written words.
- ✓ **Visit the library.** Public libraries are a great resource for events and programs like reading clubs. You can even ask a librarian for help picking out books that match your child’s reading level and interests.

Additional Resources

Learn more about Nevada K.I.D.S. Read at www.doe.nv.gov/RBG3/Home.

Check out book lists by age group at readingrockets.org/books/summer.

Sign up for weekly reading tips by text in English or Spanish at startwithabook.org/sms.

