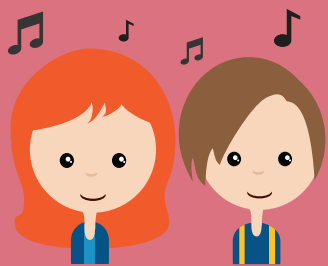


# 8 Tips for Teaching Your Child to Read

## 1. Start Reading Early

Commit to reading to your child and have your child read to you every day. Reading aloud to young children develops oral language and builds enjoyment for reading. When reading, it helps to make one's voice expressive, and to encourage children to recite stories from memory or point to the pictures as you read.



## 2. Play with Language

Music can be a great tool for teaching children how to read. Have fun and sing along with nursery rhymes. Clap or dance along with the rhythm to help them hear the sounds in spoken words.

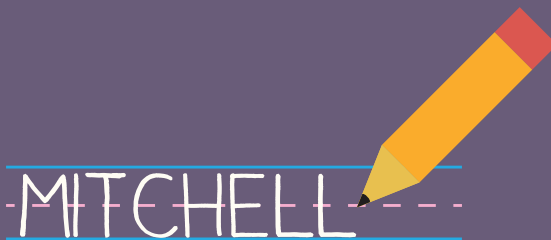
## 3. Sing the ABC's

Knowing the alphabet is the No. 1 predictor of reading success! Children need to know the names, shapes and sounds of each letter. Start by repeatedly singing the ABC song and learning capital letters, then lowercase. Play the alphabet game by looking for letters in the environment.

Aa Bb Cc

## 4. Connect Reading and Writing

Teach children how to write the letters in their name. Writing their own name is one of the most meaningful experiences young children have with print, and heightens their interest in literacy.



## Sources:

Starting Out Right: A Guide to Promoting Children's Reading Success. Waterford Institute Research

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## 5. Listen for Meaning

As children listen to stories, their background knowledge grows. Talking with them about the meaning of a story helps them develop important listening and comprehension skills.

## 6. Ask Questions

Ask questions and talk to children about what you are reading. Help them make personal connections with the characters, or with what is happening in the story.



## 7. Choose the Right Books

Children are motivated to read when book selections appeal to their interests. Select books with rich vocabulary and engaging illustrations. Fiction should have meaningful plots appropriate to a child's age. Don't forget nonfiction: children love learning about real people, places and events.



## 8. Set a Good Example

Parents can model good reading behavior by making reading a part of their daily life. When a child sees their parents reading, they'll know it's important.

## Sources:

Starting Out Right: A Guide to Promoting Children's Reading Success. Waterford Institute Research