

# The Family Reading Adventure



The future depends on what we do in the  
present



It's never too early to start sharing stories. Point out the pictures and encourage your baby to babble.

Your baby will love the sound of your voice. Find a quiet place to enjoy a story.

It's good to share favourite stories again and again. Repeating phrases helps build children's language.



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# 3-5 years old

Let them pretend to read. If your child is familiar with books, they'll get on better when they start school.

Help your child to join in. Let them turn pages and guess what happens next.



Use funny voices, toys and actions to make the characters come alive.



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# 5-8 years old



Encourage your child to read to you.  
Follow the words with your finger and  
sound out the words (c-a-t: cat).

Be positive. Praise your child for  
trying hard at their reading. It's all  
right to make mistakes.

It's not just books. Point out all the words  
around you: labels on food, street signs, etc.



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# Older children



Encourage your child and their friends to talk about what they read and share good reads.

[www.cool-reads.co.uk](http://www.cool-reads.co.uk) provides reviews of books for teenagers by teenagers.

Suggest older children read with younger members of the family.



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# Fun with letters in the bathroom

✓ For toddlers – play with plastic books or letters and waterproof crayons in the bath.

✓ Write messages on steamed-up mirrors.

✓ Try bathtime stories.

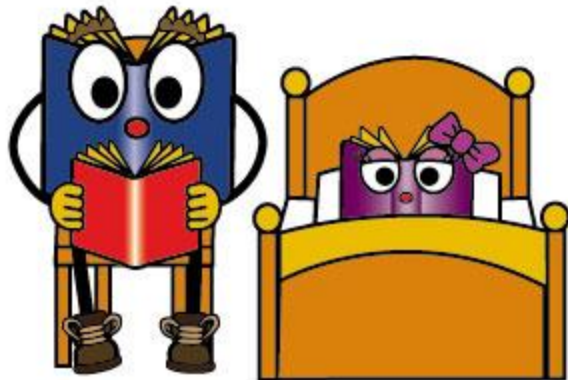


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# Share stories in the bedroom



✓ Create a special area for books.

✓ Read a bedtime story with your child every night for a week (or longer) – remember, a good ten minutes is better than a difficult half hour.



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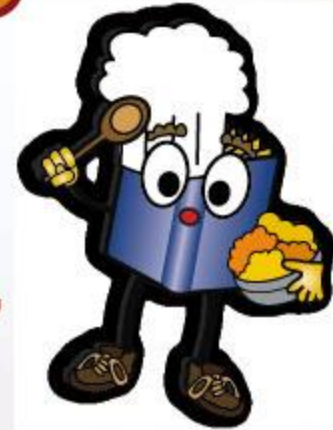
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# Discover words in the kitchen

- ✓ Regularly point out words on labels, instructions and cereal packets etc.



- ✓ Try making recipes or meals together. Get your child to read out the ingredients as you go along.

- ✓ Put magnetic letters on your fridge and make words.



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# Read when you're out and about

✓ Play the A-Z of travel – on long journeys, children can go through the alphabet seeing if they can spot a road, shop or advertising sign, finding each letter in turn. The road sign “Queues likely” comes in handy for once.

✓ Be your child a mini shopping list and help them find the items.



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# Top tips to make your home a reading home

Read yourself, if you want your children to be readers. Children copy what adults do.

Make time to read – read a bedtime story every night or chat about what your kids are reading.

Read in any language you speak at home. The important thing is that your child reads.



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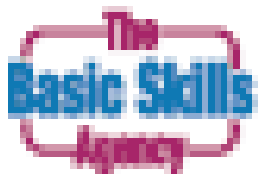
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**“The more that you read,  
the more things you will  
know. The more that  
you learn, the more  
places you’ll go.”**

**Dr Seuss**

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