



Tips for Making Reading Aloud Part of Your Family Life

Reading aloud is a shared experience between readers and listeners. Use each story to connect.

Before you read Get set for success!

Reading aloud can be a lifelong joy –

Start at birth and continue, sharing longer and more complex stories as your child grows.

Read widely – Books, comics, magazines, newspapers, blogs, newsletters. Read about familiar topics or something new.

Visit the library – Lots of stuff there and it's all free!

Find the time and place that works for you – and stick with it. Before bed is great, but other times and places work too!

Make it a habit – Have something on hand to read all the time!

While you read Enjoy the ride!

Set realistic goals – Your reading time will get longer the more you read.

Be expressive! – Use emotion to bring the story to life.

Vary your rhythm and pace – Have fun with the language in the book!

Engage with your listener – Look for details in illustrations, ask questions, discuss.

Expect some fidgeting – Your child doesn't have to be perfectly still to be listening. Give them something to do.

After you read What's next?

Make connections – Find ways that the story connects with your child's life.

Find your next book – Look for...

- another book by the same author or illustrator
- a nonfiction book about a topic you want to know more about
- the next book in a series
- a book with similar characters or themes
- something completely different!

Your librarian is the key to finding the next great read aloud for your family.