

EARLY LITERACY TIPS FOR PARENTS

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HOW TO ENCOURAGE GOOD READING HABITS IN KIDS

Reading is one of the most fundamental skills children need to learn to be successful. Not only do good reading skills benefit students academically, they are also a skill required for lifelong success. Reading develops vocabulary, increases attention span, and promotes stronger analytical thinking.

GETTING YOUR CHILD INTERESTED IN READING

The key to encouraging reading habits in kids is reading with them, at home, from a young age. By reading together often, your child will learn, first hand, the joys reading can bring, helping him or her develop a motivation to read. However, every student learns and processes information differently. This means that some children may have a natural love of reading, and some may not.

If your child falls into the second category, don't fret. As parents, there are many different strategies you can use to motivate your child to read. First, it's important to figure out why your child doesn't like reading.

WHY DOES MY CHILD DISLIKE READING?

Not every child loves to read. Some common reasons children don't like to read include:

Your child feels like reading is a chore

Your child has difficulty reading

Your child thinks reading is boring

Your child hasn't found the right book yet

The good news is that when you know **why** your child doesn't like to read, you can address the issue and begin to make reading more enjoyable. By learning to make reading fun, your child is more likely to develop a love of reading, encouraging better reading habits and making learning easier.

9 WAYS TO ENCOURAGE GOOD READING HABITS IN KIDS

CREATE A READING AREA: Make an area for your child to read in with his or her help. Grab a bean bag chair, fun accessories, a variety of books, and your child will have his or her own cozy reading corner.

ENCOURAGE READING AT HOME AND EVERYWHERE IN BETWEEN: Teach your child that reading is more than just for books. Practice reading menus, movie names, road signs, game instructions, and more—show your child reading is everywhere.

SET AN EXAMPLE: Act as a role model and read in front of your child. Watching you reading magazines, newspapers, and books shows your child that reading is important. Encourage your child to join you with his or her own book while you are reading.

MAKE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN READING AND REAL LIFE: Help your child apply what he or she is reading to everyday life. Making connections between books and your child's own experience can help increase his or her interest in reading.

KEEP READING MATERIALS IN THE HOUSE: Give your child easy access to books and other reading materials at home. This helps him or her understand that reading doesn't only happen at school—it can happen anywhere.

VISIT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY: Making reading fun can be easy with a library card. Take advantage of the selection at your local public library by letting your child pick out a book that catches his or her attention.

TALK ABOUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS READING: After your child has finished a book, talk about what happened and ask what his or her favourite part was. This will enhance your child's comprehension skills, and make reading a family activity.

EXPOSE YOUR CHILD TO DIFFERENT BOOK GENRES: Find a book that interests your child. Explore different genres like mystery, science-fiction, comic books, and more. The more interested your child is in a subject, the more he or she will be excited to read!

READ EACH NIGHT: Make reading part of your child's night-time routine. This habit helps your child learn to associate reading with relaxation.

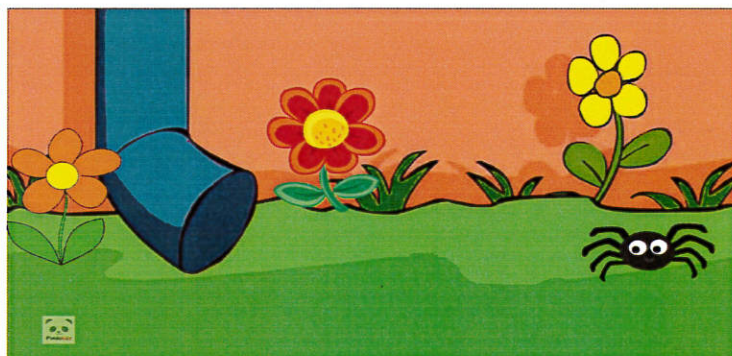
Mr. Sun

Oh, Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun
Please shine down on me
Oh, Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun
Hiding behind a tree
These little children are asking you
To please come out so we can play with you
Oh, Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun
Please shine down on me



Itsy Bitsy Spider

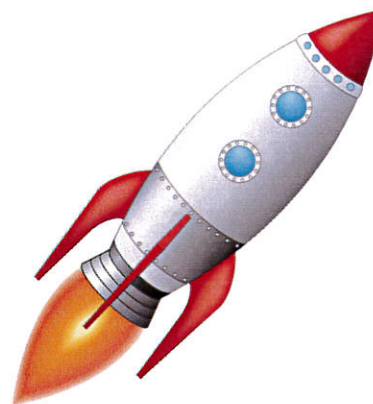
The Itsy Bitsy spider
climbed up the water spout,
Down came the rain
and washed the spider out,
Out came the sun shine
and dried up all the rain,
And Itsy Bitsy spider
climbed up the spout again.



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Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Zoom, zoom, zoom
We're going to the moon
Zoom, zoom, zoom,
We're going to get there soon!
If you want to take the trip,
Climb aboard my rocket ship
Zoom, zoom, zoom
I'm going to the moon!
5, 4, 3, 2, 1, Blast off!

