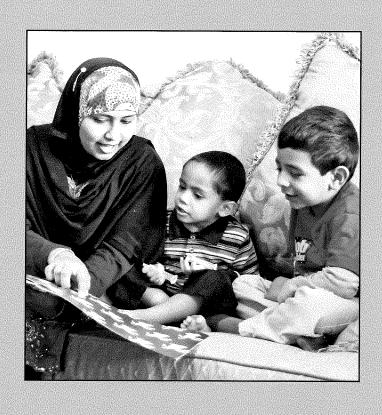
Reading With Preschoolers



The Importance of Reading to Young Children

Reading storybooks with children

- Introduces children to the pleasure of reading
- Stimulates imagination
- Strengthens brain connections
- Introduces children to new knowledge as well as familiar and comforting themes
- Enhances language ability

Strategies to Encourage Story Talk

1. First, invite children to look at, and then talk about, the pictures.

I wonder what you see on the cover.

I see a fox. I think a fox might be in this story.

2. Talk about the setting.

I wonder where this story is happening.

I think that blue part looks like a lake.

3. Connect pictures to words.

Let's read the words to find out why the gingerbread man is running.

4. Introduce new words and help children understand new vocabulary.

You've stacked the boxes and they're wobbly. They're not stable.

5. Encourage children to comment on the actions in the story

What do you see happening now?

It looks like the children are tiptoeing down the stairs.

6. Flip back and forth in the book. Reread and look back at pictures.

It looks like the mouse is on top of the bed now. Where was he on the other page?

7. Imagine what a character might be thinking or saying.

I wonder what that fox is thinking now.

8. Relate actions in the story to children's own actions.

The peddler is shaking his fist because he is so angry.

What do you do when you're angry?

It's Important to Read Because...

Reading to children helps children acquire more vocabulary.

The English language contains 500,000 words, yet only 15,000 words are used in everyday speech, and only 7,000 words are used on television.

— P. Kropp (2000). How to make your child a reader for life.

Storybooks for Preschoolers

The Runaway Dinner, Allan Ahlberg

Once Upon a Banana, Jennifer Armstrong

Wolf and the Seven Little Kids, Ann Blades

The First Strawberries, Joseph Bruchac

Mr. Grumpy's Motor Car, John Burningham

Katy and the Big Snow, Virginia Lee Burton

Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel, Virginia Burton

The Empty Pot, Demi

Pancakes for Breakfast, Tomie DePaola

The Hatseller and the Monkeys, Baba Wague Diakite

Earl the Squirrel, Don Freeman

Night Noises, Mem Fox

Millions of Cats, Wanda Gag

Flora's Blanket, Debi Gliori

Bedtime for Frances, Russell Hoban

The Snowy Day, Ezra Jack Keats

Sam and the Tigers, Julius Lester

Blueberries for Sal, Robert McCloskey

Tomas and the Library Lady, Pat Mora

The Funny Little Woman, Arlene Mosel

Curious George, H.A. Rey

The Biggest Soap, Carole Lexa Schaefer

Farmer Palmer's Wagon Ride, William Steig

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble, William Steig

A Chair for My Mother, Vera Williams

Wordless Picture Books

Tuba Lessons, T.C. Bartlett

Good Dog, Carl, Alexandra Day

Changes, Changes, Pat Hutchins

Rainstorm, Barbara Lehman

A Boy, A Dog, and a Frog, Mercer Mayer

Good Night, Gorilla, Peggy Rathmann

Deep in the Forest, Brinton Turkle

Recommended by Others:

Benefits of Rereading Stories to Children

Rereading stories

- Gives children more opportunities to understand the story
- Strengthens brain connections
- Improves vocabulary, sequencing, and memory skills
- Helps build children's confidence
- · Increases the possibility that children will be able to read books on their own

Reading Plans

1. Think of one of your children's favorite book. Write the name of it down here:

2. What makes it so interesting to children?

3. Which interactive strategies will you use the next time you read this book with them?