

Guided Reading With Your Child

While Reading with your child, be sure to...

- Praise all efforts. (It's the thinking process you are praising, not necessarily that your child pronounced the word correctly.)
- Avoid saying "Sound it out" until you have exhausted all the other suggestions.

☆ Step One ☆

Begin by introducing the book.

- Discuss the title, author, illustrator, and cover.
- Ask your child. "What do you think this story will be about?"

☆ Step Two ☆

Take a picture walk.

- Flip through the pages of the book, discussing the pictures. Try to bring out any words in the discussion that your child might be unfamiliar with.

☆ Step Three ☆

Read the story to your child.

- Point to the words as you read. This will help your child to learn that reading goes from left to right, and that words are separated by spaces. Many children may memorize words which become a part of their sight vocabulary: words children instantly recognize and read.

Examples of Specific Praise

- 1) You noticed that something was not quite right. Good for you!
- 2) You skipped the hard word, read to the end of the sentence and then made a good guess. That's what good reader's do!
- 3) It's a great idea to use the pictures to help you.
- 4) You did a good job pointing to each word.
- 5) You asked me for that word when you weren't able to figure it out. I'm proud of you!
- 6) Good for you! You used the picture and the letters to figure out the hard word.
- 7) Wow! You knew you made a mistake and you tried to fix it (or you fixed it).
- 8) Look, you didn't know that word on that last page, but you knew what it was on this page. Good thinking!
- 9) You did a great job reading with expression.
- 10) You worked really hard on that word. You should be proud of yourself.
- 11) Thanks for reading that book with me.

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☆ Step Four ☆

Read the story with the child.

- Lower your voice so that you are supporting your child as he or she reads the story. Your voice will provide assistance with any unknown words.

☆ Step Five ☆

Have your child read the story to you.

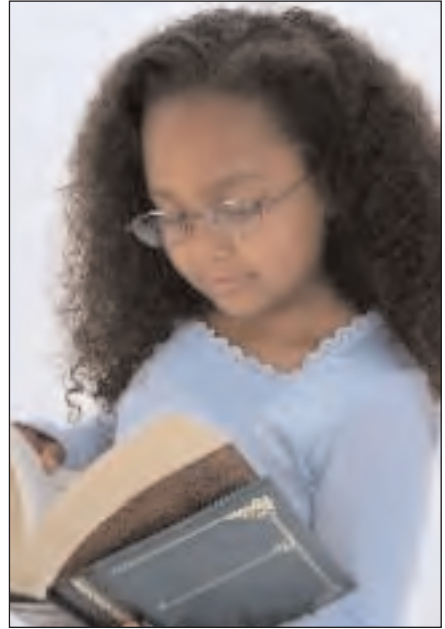
- Now, sit back and listen as your child enjoys reading the story to you.

When a child reads to you...

- Sit so you both can see the words and the pictures.
- Let your child hold the book and turn the pages.
- Be a good listener
- Focus all of your attention on your child and the words he or she is reading.
- Ask questions and give supportive comments before, during, and after the reading.

When a child meets an unknown word...

- Allow ample time for your child to work through the unknown word.
- Encourage the use of pictures when attempting to identify the unknown words.
- Ask, "What word would make sense there?"
- Tell your child the word if he or she is struggling.
- Have patience!



Don't...

- Cover the pictures.
- Stop your child while he or she is reading.
- Criticize your child about his or her reading.
- Cover the words when pointing to them.
- Send your child to his or her room with a book as punishment.
- Let your child know he or she made an error by shaking your head, sighing, rolling your eyes, etc.
- Make your child feel bad because he or she didn't know a word.
- Give up!