Building a Reader At Home

Explore Books!
Give your child an opportunity to explore books. **Visiting a library or bookstore** gives your child a chance to find topics and books that interest them.

Read, Read, Read!
Make sure to read for at least **30 minutes per day**! Children can read independently, aloud to an adult, or back and forth with a partner.

Ask Questions!
- Predictions
- Characters
- Main Idea
- Problem
- Solution
- Retell Story
- Genre
- Moral

Make it Fun!
Reading shouldn't be a chore. Intentionally read with your child/discuss books but also research topics and do book activities together.

Be an Example!
Children learn by example, so **let your child see you read** whether it be a book, newspaper, cookbook, etc.

Pick Good Fit Books!
A book that is a good match for your child should meet the following requirements:
- Purpose for reading
- Interest
- Can they understand what they are reading? Can they retell the story?
- Do they know most of the words?

For Beginning Readers:
- Point out and read words in natural settings – stores, streets, etc.
- Memorize sight words
- Visualize the story in your head
- Ask questions before, during, and after

Don't immediately tell an unknown word to your child. Instead, ask them to:
- Sound out the word
- Break the word into parts
- Try a different vowel sound (long/short)
- Use illustrations for clues
- Skip the word, re-read sentence, and go back – what word would make sense?

For Advanced Readers:
- Notice interesting, new vocabulary words, and make it a challenge to use them in conversation
- Read with expression
- Explore non-fiction books and their text features (diagrams, table of contents, etc.) along with other genres as well
- Compare and contrast books
- Discuss connections to literature
- Think of new titles for books
- Explore multiple books from the same author

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