

READING STRATEGIES TO USE AT HOME

1. Read as often as possible to your child:
 - read a variety of materials
 - read books with rhyme, rhythm and repetition
 - re-read familiar books over and over
2. Read for pleasure in front of your child to demonstrate how important reading is to you.
3. Call attention to environmental print (signs, labels, etc).
4. Talk about books **before**, **during** and **after** reading:
 - **before**: discuss the title, author, illustrator, title page, dedication page and predict what the story might be about
 - **during**: encourage discussions and predictions ("What do you think will happen?")
 - **after**: discuss favorite parts, exciting parts, things not understood, meanings of new words, the author's craft ("What did the author or illustrator do to make us like the story?")
5. Read books together:
 - parent and child read chorally
 - each person can read one page/section
 - the child can read the words and phrase that he or she knows
6. Encourage your child to read and re-read familiar books to you or to tell you the story while looking at the pictures.
7. Do not automatically tell your child a word he or she doesn't know when reading to you. Let him or her try different strategies for unlocking the word. Discuss these strategies with your child.
8. Encourage a family reading time when everyone reads independently or family members take turns reading a story aloud.
9. Plan frequent trips to the library. Inquire about the special services that the library offers.