

What is Shared Reading?

Shared reading happens any time an adult and a child read together. The most important thing you can do to help children become strong readers is to read aloud with them!

Shared reading helps children:

- Learn how to engage with texts
- Build comprehension and listening skills
- Expand their vocabulary
- Broaden their world knowledge
- Discover the joy of reading for fun
- Create lifelong memories

Tips for Shared Reading

Before Reading:

- ✓ **Make it a habit:** Set aside specific time(s) each day, such as before bed, after meals, etc.
- ✓ **Find a cozy spot:** A comfy chair or floor pillows are great!
- ✓ **Preview the book:** Check out the title, author, & illustrations. Make predictions!
- ✓ **Unplug:** Mute or turn off other distractions, like television, music, & phones.

During Reading:

- ✓ **Have fun:** Vary your voice & facial expressions. Emphasize rhymes, repetition, & pauses.
- ✓ **Make connections:** Help children compare & contrast the book & real-life experiences. Point out hidden jokes or clues in the words or illustrations.
- ✓ **Pace yourself:** Give children time to make comments, ask questions, and suggest their own answers!
- ✓ **Ask questions:** Help children participate actively by asking open-ended questions (How? What? Who? When? Where? Why?)

After Reading:

- ✓ **Share your thoughts:** You could choose to write, draw, or even video record your review!
- ✓ **Choose your favorite scene:** Draw a picture, act it out, or write an alternate ending!
- ✓ **Find out more about the author and/or illustrator:** What types of books do they create? Ask if the children would you like to read some of their other titles together.
- ✓ **Research the alternatives:** Is there a movie or TV version? Can you find other books on the same topic?

