



# HOW TO RAISE A CURIOUS READER

## It's Never Too Early to Foster a Love of Reading

Begin reading to your child at birth.

Let your baby play with the book.

If the baby sometimes doesn't seem interested, put the book away and try again another time. Raising a reader takes time and patience.

Be animated. Use different voices and facial expressions as you read. Make it fun!

Choose books that use word repetition, rhymes, and predictable text.

Decide on a regular time to read each day; even five or ten minutes gets children ready to read on their own.

Before reading the book together, have your child take a "picture walk" through the book and make predictions about the story.

Let your child turn the pages and point to words as you read.

Encourage a love of words by playing rhyming and word games, singing silly songs, or writing stories together.

## Satisfy Your Child's Curiosity

Choose books that support your child's interests, from dinosaurs to wizards.

Reread your child's favorite books whenever asked. After several retellings, ask your child to tell you the story.

Involve your child in the reading by asking questions! Ask "what" questions; avoid questions that require a simple "yes" or "no" answer. You might ask, "What do you think will happen next?" Remember to give your child time to think about the question and respond.

Take your child to the library to check out books and attend story hours.

If your child shows an interest in a picture either by talking about it or pointing to it, follow up immediately by asking questions and letting your child answer.

**Most important, have fun reading to your child!**