Tips to Help Support Your Beginning Reader

Reading books with your child can support language development and learning in many ways. Incorporating some of these tips can help develop your child's reading skills.

1. Provide a consistent time and place to read together.

Make it a positive experience so that your child will look forward to your time together.

- 2. Practice at least three to four nights a week for at least 15 to 20 minutes. The extra practice reading aloud with school materials can help your child read more fluently, accurately, smoothly and with expression.
- 3. Listen to your child read.

This is an effective way to help your child become a better reader. The effort you take to make this an enjoyable time also can help your child have a positive attitude about school.

4. Talk with your child's teacher.

Know what has been assigned for reading homework and help your child keep on task.

- 5. Have your child bring home his class reader, other class books, and library books so that you can listen to your child read the day's assigned reading.

 This can help improve your child's reading comprehension.
- 6. Wait before helping your child when he makes a mistake.

Sometimes other words in the sentence can help him figure out the unknown word.

Praise your child for correcting himself and using clues to figure out words on his own.

This will help build your child's reading confidence.

Provide help without telling them the word if they are unsuccessful at first.

The more often you listen to your child read, the more his or her reading is likely to improve.

9. Make time to read aloud together often.

This can help your child enjoy reading and become more confident about his or her reading. It also improves vocabulary, accuracy, and comprehension.

10. Keep a variety of reading materials available throughout your home.

The more your child is exposed to books and reading materials, the more interested he or she will be in learning to read.

