

## 11 Ways Parents Can Help Their Children Read

By Timothy Shanahan

1. Teaching reading will only help-begin reading to your child early.
2. Teaching literacy isn't different than teaching other skills-reading should be fun, no hassle, no problem, enjoy the journey.
3. Talk to your kids (a lot)-to learn more, you need to talk more, hear it, see it and speak it.
4. Read to your kids-take turns, you read then let your child read, they need to hear what words sound like, read with excitement.
5. Have them tell you a "story"-write down what they say and read it back to them, point at the words as you read them aloud.
6. Teach phonemic awareness-your child needs to learn words have sounds and words change when the letters change.
7. Teach phonics- letter names and their sounds, magnetic letters, ABC books, etc are ways to learn the letters and their sounds.
8. Listen to your child read-let them read a book to you and then read it again, repeated reading makes you a better reader.
9. Promote writing-putting what we read into words is using many different skills to make us a better reader.
10. Ask questions-have your child retell the story, ask what happened in the story, think about the events that happened in the book.
11. Make reading a regular activity in your home-read daily if you want to develop a love of reading! Make it fun!