Before Reading

- Look at the book cover and look through the book at pictures.
- Possible questions:
  - Why did you pick this book?
  - Have you ever read this book before?
  - What do you think it will be about?
  - Do you have questions about this book?

During Reading

- Talk about something you or your child finds interesting, funny, exciting or important.
- Possible questions:
  - What do you think will happen next?
  - Why do you think (character) did that? What would you have done?
  - That reminds me of ____. What does it remind you of?

During Reading

- Talk about what you just read together. Don’t make it a “quiz” but make comments and ask questions to show that you are interested in what you just read.
- Possible questions:
  - What did you think of that?
  - Did anything confuse you?
  - What did you learn?
  - What surprised you? Or made you laugh? Or made you sad?
  - What was your favorite part? Why?

Activities & Suggestions to Improve Your Child’s Reading at Home

Parents serve both as teachers and role models in reading.

—National Research Council
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What You Can Do At Home</th>
<th>Some Activities to Promote Literacy</th>
<th>Reading Tips</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set aside regular time for reading, even just 10-15 minutes a day.</td>
<td>Read aloud and have your child read to you.</td>
<td>Wait for your child to try the word.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Model reading and writing for pleasure and specific uses.</td>
<td>Read a favorite book cover to cover.</td>
<td>Encourage your child to check the pictures for clues and think about the story.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create a quiet, special place in your home to read, write, and draw.</td>
<td>Take turns reading pages.</td>
<td>Rereading is a good way to figure out an unknown word. Ask your child to reread, say the sound of the first letter, and make a guess.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Find a special place for your child’s books.</td>
<td>Talk about books and retell exciting stories or favorite parts.</td>
<td>Always encourage your child to make the story sound right and make sense.</td>
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<td>Limit tv, computer, and video game time.</td>
<td>Give children books as gifts.</td>
<td>If several attempts are unsuccessful, simply tell your child the word.</td>
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<td>Respond positively to children’s reading and writing efforts.</td>
<td>Write letters and make birthday cards for family and friends.</td>
<td>Try not to interrupt if the error makes sense.</td>
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<td>Make reading and writing an enjoyable experience.</td>
<td>Create a scrapbook and label the pictures.</td>
<td>Praise your child’s efforts!</td>
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</tbody>
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