

The Importance of Reading

FACT: Listening to you read or describe pictures in a book will help your child learn new sounds, words, ideas, and expand thinking skills.

- Reading helps your child learn words and grammar.
- Reading helps your child listen, concentrate, and learn.
- Reading helps develop an interest in reading, emotions, and intelligence.
- Reading helps prepare your child for kindergarten and later school experiences.

FACT: Your child will be able to point to a picture you name before he can name it himself.

- Hold the book so that your child can see the words and the pictures.
- Point to the words as you read so your child knows you read from left to right.
- Make your voice interesting and read short, simple sentences.
- Read nursery rhymes so that your child learns that some words sound the same, talking has a steady beat, and words are fun.
- Re-read books that your child enjoys to create a feeling of security and comfort.

FACT: Reading is fun and can be time you and your child spend together.

Suggested Books: Available from your local library

Newborn to 2 Years	2 Years to 4 Years	4 Years to 6 Years
Helen Oxenbury: Shopping Trip	Marjorie Flack: Angus and the Cat	Nancy Shaw: Sheep in a Jeep
John Birmingham: John Birmingham's ABC's	Dan Freeman: Corduroy	Ludwig Bemelmans: Madeline
Tana Hoban: 26 Letters and 99 Cents	Judith Viorst: Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Arnold Lobel: Frog and Toad Together
Frank Asch: Moonbear's Books	Charlotte Zolotow: Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present	H.A. Rey: Curious George
Cynthia Rylant: Cynthia Rylant's Everyday House		Peggy Parish: Amelia Bedelia
		Maurice Sandak: Where the Wild Things Are
		William Steig: The Amazing Bone

Reference: "The Importance of Reading" - York Region Preschool Speech and Language Program