

Tips for Exploring Literacy with Young Kids

Exploring books and stories together is a great way to introduce young kids to reading. Here are some 4 ideas for enjoying stories together.

Ask questions as you read or look at the pictures. Some ideas include:

- Tell me about the cover. What clues does it give about the story inside?
- What is happening on this page? (talk about the pictures)
- What do you think that character is feeling? Why do you think they feel that way? When have you felt like that?
- What do you think will happen next?



Work on vocabulary together. Here are some ideas by age:

- Name objects in the pictures to increase vocabulary (1-2 years)
- Invite your child to join in when there is a repeated phrase or word in the text (2-3 years)
- Ask your child to name things in the pictures (2-3 years)
- Point out the letters in your child's name (2-4 years)
- Point out words and pictures that start with the same sound (3-4 years)



Retell the story.

Have your child retell the story after you finish. Retelling the story shows what they understand, and gives your child the opportunity to share their own perspective. Encourage them to tell the same story to another family member or friend. Adding helpful prompts like, "And then what happened?" helps children remember the story arc and structure while retelling.



Go to the library together.

Help your child choose books about the things they are most interested in! The librarians will have great suggestions, and can help you find books that are the right level of challenge for your young readers.

