

How to Make Reading Part of Your Daily Routine

Storytime is a great way to connect with your child and enjoy some quality time together and it can also help your child's language develop. As teachers, parents and caregivers we know how important it is to read with young children to help them prepare for school. But we know that it can be hard to find the time to read with your child. So we have put together some top tips to help you make reading part of your daily routine

Turn off the TV or radio so there are no distractions



Create a cosy place to read. This could be a squidgy arm-chair in the sitting room or a pile of pillows in a corner of your child's room. The area where you spend most of your storytimes should be comfy and inviting. Having a comfortable space should mean that you and your child are happier when reading together.



Sit close together so your child can see your face and the book. This will keep your child interested.



You can encourage your child to hold the book themselves and to turn the pages.



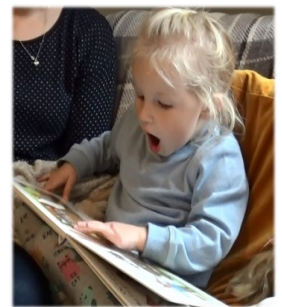
You don't have to read at the same time everyday but sometimes it helps to pick the same time each day to get you into the habit of reading.

A popular time to read is at bedtime and this can help you and your child wind down before bedtime.



Try to fit storytime in whenever it suits you both. You might like to read after mealtimes, before a nap or after playtime.

Choose a time when your child is alert but calm. Right after they wake up in the morning or after a bath are both great times.



Don't worry if your child's too squirmy to sit on your lap for storytime, let them sit — and wriggle — beside you on the sofa.



And most important of all—Have fun!

