

Reading Tips

20 MINUTES

Student achievement is significantly bolstered by just 20 extra minutes of reading each day. (Block, 2003)

For Parents

Reading aloud creates a special time for you to bond with your children, but did you know that it also helps your children develop the language skills they will use throughout school and for a lifetime? Use these Before, During, and After ideas to enrich your time reading together!

Before:

- Preview the book and practice reading it.
- Introduce the title, author, and illustrator.
- Tell briefly what the story is about.

During:

- Hold the book so your child can see the words and illustrations.
- Vary your tone, volume, and pitch as you read.
- Pause occasionally to explain, comment, or look at the illustrations.

After:

- Discuss the characters and what happened in the story.
- Ask questions that provoke thought.
- Help your child relate the story to something personal or another story.

At-Home Literacy Checklist

- We fill our home with books, magazines, and newspapers.
- We read every day in the same place and at the same time.
- We talk about the characters and what happened in the story after we read.
- We make sure our child sees us reading.
- We reward our child's attempts at reading with praise.

