

Pre-Reading Skills

Read to your child to help her learn to read in the future.

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Why is this important?

- You help set up your child for success by sharing and reading books with her.
- Through reading with you, your child naturally and automatically develops six important pre-literacy skills.



Pre-Literacy Skills

1. **Vocabulary:** knowing the names of things and using the correct words.
2. **Print awareness:** noticing print, knowing how to hold a book, how to turn the page, and how to follow the words on a page.
3. **Letter knowledge:** knowing letters are different from each other, knowing their names and sound, and recognizing letters everywhere.
4. **Phonological awareness:** being able to hear and play with letter sounds, and how letter sounds go together to make words.
5. **Narrative skills:** being able to tell stories, and describe things and events
6. **Print motivation:** being interested in and enjoying books.

Back and forth, interaction with your child while reading is called “conversational reading” or “dialogic reading.” This is when the adult both listens and asks questions, allowing the child to lead.

These skills help to build a foundation for future success in school and life. Make sure to read with your child every day!

Keep in mind, every child develops at his/her own pace. Talk to your pediatrician if you have questions about your child's development.

Related Resources

[Tips to Boost Early Literacy at Home](#) (Jumpstart)

[Reading: 19-36 Months](#) (Earlier is Easier)