



Parents as Reading Role Models

Parent involvement in early literacy is directly connected to later academic achievement. Children need parents to be their reading role models and to practice daily with them in order to be successful readers. Early learning research emphasizes the importance of daily adult/child reading time, as well as having books at home for children to help them be academically ready for kindergarten.

However, recent research shows that reading as a stand-alone activity is not enough to help children succeed, they need to be offered more specific skills while being read to.

Six Strategies for Reading Comprehension

1. Point to each word on the page as you read. This beginning literacy strategy will assist children with making print/story/illustration connections and tracking from one line to the next.
2. Read the title and ask your child to make a prediction. What do you think this book is about?
3. Take "picture walks." Help your child use the picture clues in most early reading and picture books to tell the story before reading.
4. Model fluency while reading. Bring your own energy and excitement for reading to your child. Include varying pitch, intonation and proper fluctuations when reading aloud.
5. Ask your child questions after reading every book. Reading comprehension is the reason we read - to understand. Help your child explain his or her understanding of any given story in comparison to another. Have your child share a personal experience similar to a problem or theme within a story.
6. Connect reading and writing if possible. The connection between reading, writing and discussion should be incorporated with daily literacy practice. Have your child dictate his/her thoughts about the book to you while you write in a journal or on a sheet of paper, then have him/her illustrate it.

<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/parent-involvement-in-early-literacy-erika-burton>