Let's Read!

When parents help their children learn to read, they open the door to a big, exciting world.

As a parent, you can begin an endless learning chain like this:

- You read to your children, they develop a love of stories and poems,
- they want to read on their own, they practice reading, and finally, they read for their own information or pleasure.

Helping children understand how books work is the beginning of reading!

Book Friendly!

Together with your child, explore the following book friendly questions.....

⭐ Where is the front of this book?
⭐ Where is the back of this book?
⭐ Can you point to the title for me?
⭐ Where do I begin reading the story?
⭐ Where will I stop reading?
⭐ Can you tell me a story by “reading” the pictures?
As you read....

- Point to the words on the page. Move your finger from left to right.

- Talk about the pictures. Let your child give their “best guess” as to what words might be printed on the page. See if your child can locate any of the words they guessed.

- Read aloud together to learn about rhythm and repeated sounds in language.

Additional suggestions

- Children who are already reading: Have them read to younger children.

- Dictate stories: Encourage your preschooler to tell you stories while you write the words. They can do their own illustrations.

- Listen to your child read homework or favorite stories to you every day.

- Go to the library together and check out books. Be sure to ask the librarian for good books or to help you find what you need.

- Have books, magazines, and papers around the house, and let your child see that you like to read, too.

- Read aloud to your child: books, newspaper and magazine articles, the back of the cereal box, labels on cans, or directions.

For more information contact:

A project of the Florida Partnership for Parent Involvement
Center of Excellence - Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute - Florida’s Children’s Forum
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters - Hillsborough County Head Start - Hillsborough County Even Start
The Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI’s goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, “Beyond the Basics” resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcp. The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series’ themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF’s de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children’s Forum. Other project partners include HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

School Readiness Series, Parent Tip Sheets, #17: Book Friendly!!

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