

SHARING BOOKS TOGETHER

Simple ways to make reading relaxed, playful and special



1 Let them choose

Give children a say in what you read - even if it is the same favourite for the tenth time!

2 Get comfy

Slow down, snuggle up and enjoy escaping into a little world together.

3 Invite them to join in

Pause for a favourite phrase, repeated refrain or a character's words so they can take part.

4 Have fun with voices

Try silly sounds, accents or different voices. You do not need to be perfect - just enjoy it!

5 Bring the story to life

Slow down, speed up and build suspense. Action, rhythm and rhyme make it easier to join in.

6 Start a conversation

Ask: What might happen next? What can you spot? How do you think the character feels?

7 Make real-life connections

Link the story to places, people and experiences your child already knows.

8 Talk about feelings

Stories are a gentle way to explore being worried, excited, cross, lonely, kind or brave.

9 Explore the pictures

Take time to notice details, tell the story from the illustrations and wonder together.

10 Follow their interests

Dinosaurs, football, bugs or princesses - anything they love can be a doorway into reading.

11 Try something different

Share picture books, poetry, comics, magazines and fascinating non-fiction too.

12 Keep it relaxed

Stop, chat, skip a page or leave the ending for later. Enjoying time together matters most.

There is no right way to share a book!

Your attention, warmth and time together are what make it special.

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