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6 STEPS TO GETTING YOUR CHILD READY TO READ!

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1. **READ** TOGETHER FOR AT LEAST 15 MINUTES A DAY. MAKE READING A FUN AND RELAXING EXPERIENCE. AS YOUR CHILD ASSOCIATES READING WITH GOOD EXPERIENCES, THEY WILL WANT TO READ MORE. THIS BUILDS **PRINT MOTIVATION**.

2. **OBSERVE** WORDS AND SYMBOLS AROUND YOU, AND POINT THEM OUT TO YOUR CHILD. SIGNS FOR RESTAURANTS AND STORES ARE GREAT WAYS TO SHOW THE IMPORTANCE OF WORDS AND HOW THEY HAVE A DIRECT MEANING IN OUR LIVES. THIS DEVELOPS **PRINT AWARENESS**.

3. **TALK** WITH YOUR CHILD CONSTANTLY. PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION IS THE BEST WAY TO BUILD YOUR CHILD'S VOCABULARY. TRY NOT TO TALK AT YOUR CHILD, BUT INSTEAD WITH YOUR CHILD TO ENGAGE HIM/HER IN CONVERSATION THAT REQUIRES HIM/HER TO RESPOND. THIS BUILDS **VOCABULARY**.

4. **PLAY** WORD GAMES WITH YOUR CHILD. FOR EXAMPLE, ASK YOUR CHILD TO FIND THINGS ON THE STORE SHELVES THAT START WITH THE FIRST LETTER OF HIS OR HER NAME. THIS BUILDS **LETTER KNOWLEDGE**.



5. **SING** SONGS WITH YOUR CHILD. TRADITIONAL SONGS ARE A GREAT WAY TO CONNECT CHILDREN, PARENTS, AND GRANDPARENTS AND TEACH A SENSE OF RHYTHM FOR LANGUAGE. THIS BUILDS **PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS**.

6. **TELL** STORIES TO EACH OTHER. TALK ABOUT YOUR DAY, AND IN THE ORDER IN WHICH YOU DID THINGS. THIS WILL DEVELOP A CHILD'S UNDERSTANDING OF HOW A STORY WORKS AND WILL MAKE READING EASIER. THIS BUILDS **NARRATIVE SKILLS**.



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