




Greater Houston

Dear Parents/Caregivers:


Reading is one of the most important life skills for your child to develop. You can help your child become an enthusiastic and fluent reader by providing experiences that will lead to success.

Give your child lots of opportunities to listen to stories and to read stories to you. The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week to see what works best for your child.


Read together every day

-  Make this a warm and loving time. This should be a time for the two of you to be together with no distractions.


Make predictions

-  Before reading a book, look at the cover with your child. Ask your child what they think the book will be about.


Take a picture walk

-  Talk about the pictures in the book. Have your child find one or two words they know as you picture walk through the book.


Read it and experience it

-  Connect what your child reads with what happens in life. If you read a book about animals, relate it to your last trip to the zoo or park.


Read with fun in your voice

-  Read to your child with humor and expression. Use different voices. Have fun with the characters.


Be interactive

-  Discuss what is happening in the book and point out things on the page. Ask questions about the story. Say something like, "Why do you think Clifford did that?" "What do you think will happen next?"

Read it again and again

-  Go ahead and read your child's favorite book for the 100th time. Rereading books helps to build a strong connection to reading. Your child will feel more confident in reading if they have heard the story many times.

Talk about letters and sounds

-  Help your child learn the names of letters and the sounds the letters make. While reading have your child search for a given letter. When they find a letter have them make the sound that letter makes. Make it a game.