



Read all about it!



Reading is the key to unlocking any child's future potential. Children who read well by 11 do better at school, get better exam results and do better in the workplace - they're also best placed to give their own children the best start in life.

Just 10 minutes of reading a day can make a huge difference to your child's reading skills. Here are ten top tips for getting your child reading.

1. **Read anywhere and everywhere.** While you are out with your child doing daily activities. Read signs, letters, numbers and logos - so they know writing means something.



2. **Don't just read books.** Read anything - newspapers, comics, magazines, emails, road signs or even shop posters.



3. **Be positive.** Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes. Turn off the TV! It's easier for your child to concentrate if there are no distractions.

4. **Children love to copy adults.** If you sit down with a book or magazine for ten minutes, it doesn't just give you a break, it sets a great example for your child too.

5. **Don't read for too long.** A good ten minutes is better than a difficult half hour.

6. **Talk.** Talk about the things you see in the book - who is in it, what they did and where they went.

7. **Let them read their favourites.** It is good practice to read the same book over and over again.

8. **Act it out.** Children can act out stories, this will help them to learn to tell stories based on what they have read and heard.



9. **Ways with words.** Talk about what different words mean and tell your child the name for anything they don't know. This is how children learn new words and helps them to become a better reader.



10. **Tell stories together.** Talking about your day and what you did means sharing time with your child. We tell stories all the time, both real and made up and these stories can help your child become a reader and a writer of stories.