What is Book Sharing?

Open a book and start a conversation.

You don’t have to read every word to enjoy books with your child. There is so much more to talk about than the words on the page.

How to share a Book

Tune In to what your child is focused on and follow his lead through the book. Allowing your child to take the lead ensures that he’s engaged in what you’re reading and saying.

Encourage your child to Tune In by connecting the story to people, places and things in his world.

Talk More by describing what you see in the illustrations: shapes, sizes, colors, numbers. Talk More about the past + future by asking your child about what happened or what will happen next.

Take Turns by encouraging your child to tell you what she likes in the book; ask her what the characters in the book might feel and think.

Book Sharing Tips

- Keep books at your child’s level, so he can always reach them.
- Take frequent trips to the library and attend children’s programming events.
- Carry books with you when you are traveling.
- Show your child you love reading, to encourage her own lifelong love of books!
Book Sharing Recommendations

0 to 3 years old

- Try to be lively and engaging to capture your child’s attention.
- Let your child lead the way. Let him hold the book and flip the pages.
- Point out and describe pictures and objects in the book.
- Be expressive by acting out the books.

4 to 7 years old

- Don’t feel like you have to read every word in the book. Summarize! It’s especially useful for books that have lots of dialogue.
- Let your child lead the way. Let him hold the book and flip the pages. If your child can read, have him read to you.
- Be expressive in both your face and tone. Point out and describe the pictures. Ask questions about what your child sees.
- Ask your child what she thinks is going to happen next and how the characters in the book might feel.

8 to 10 years old

- Even if your child can read on her own, you can still share books! Take Turns reading aloud to each other.
- Be sure to talk with your child about what you’re reading, and ask questions and find the answers together.
- Be patient. Even though your child is a reader now, she may need help pronouncing some words and learning what they mean.
- Show your child to use the context to find the meaning of new words.