

# Parents and Guardians: Tips to Encourage Children to Read

1. Read aloud to your child daily.
2. Talk and listen to your children.
3. Sign your child up for Imagination Library Books
4. Read together.
5. Listen to books on CDs or on the computer.
6. Praise your child for reading.
7. Create a reading space.
8. Read the newspaper together.
9. Visit and know your library.
10. Let your child read to you.
11. Have a book show and tell.
12. Read recipes and cook together.
13. Take turns reading.
14. Keep a family calendar of reading.
15. Tell stories.
16. Keep a variety of reading materials in the house.
17. Encourage your child to practice reading.
18. Establish a reading time.
19. Limit television time.
20. Put down the cell phone.
21. Have a place in the child's room for his or her books.
22. Write short notes for your child to read.
23. Encourage activities that require reading.
24. Ask your child about his/her reading.
25. Attend book and reading activities.
26. Encourage your child to read words on T.V., signs, labels, etc.
27. Encourage older children to read to younger children.
28. Play games that are reading related.
29. Limit time on video games.
30. Work in partnership with your child's school.
31. Look at advertisements.
32. Give books as gifts.
33. Have an assortment of writing materials.
34. Travel with books.
35. Use a book to plan a trip.
36. Use computer programs that encourage reading.
37. Provide an allowance for books.
38. Organize a children's book club in your neighborhood.
39. Reward your child for reading.



## Tips for Parents to help their children become better readers before and after birth

1. Talk to your child to assist him/her in learning to speak and build vocabulary and understanding of words.
2. Read to bond with your child and build vocabulary.
3. Use songs, sounds, gestures and words that rhyme to develop your child's language skills.
4. The human voice is better than the T.V. or a computer.
5. Point out printed words wherever you are. Spend as much time listening to your child as you do talking to him/her.
6. Take children's books and writing materials with you whenever you leave home including errands.
7. Create a quiet, special place in your home for your child to read, write and draw. Make sure books are close at hand and easy to reach.
8. Show your child reading is important by reading where he/her can see you.
9. Limit the amount of television, computer, and video time you and your child watch.
10. Reach out to libraries. Librarians can help you find age-appropriate books to read.
11. Provide your child with year-round reading and educational activities.
12. When you are reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help your child learn that reading is left to right and associate the written word with the spoken word.
13. Read a child's favorite book over and over.
14. Read stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite the child to join you on the repeats.
15. Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the happening. Use picture clues to discuss new words.
16. Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, song books, poems and information books.

## Read 20

Why Can't I Skip my 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight? Students that read 20 minutes each day (3600 minutes in a school year) will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days by 6th grade. Students that have read 5 minutes each day (900 minutes in a school year) will have read only 12 days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school.....and.... life?

### Additional reading support websites

- [www.read20.org](http://www.read20.org)
- [usa.imaginationlibrary.com/](http://usa.imaginationlibrary.com/) [www.pbs.org/launchingreaders/parenttips.html](http://www.pbs.org/launchingreaders/parenttips.html)
- [www.scholastic.com/parents/www.readingrockets.org/article/18935/](http://www.scholastic.com/parents/www.readingrockets.org/article/18935/)
- [www.flreads.org/Family-Literacy/links.htm](http://www.flreads.org/Family-Literacy/links.htm)
- [www.mambaby.com/](http://www.mambaby.com/)
- [www.kidcentraltn.org](http://www.kidcentraltn.org)

Core Skill Reading Partnership  
Rotary Club of Morristown A.M./HC\*EXCELL  
(423) 587-9278