



Top 10 Ways To Raise A Lifelong Reader

- 1.** Read to or with your child every day, for at least 15 minutes, even when your child is old enough to read independently.
- 2.** Create reading rituals. Cuddle together in the same comfortable space at the same time every day for bedtime stories; read a chapter book aloud at the breakfast table; pick out new books every time you go on vacation.
- 3.** Keep a running conversation: Talk about books you are reading as you read them. Ask your child open-ended questions about the plot and characters.
- 4.** Show your child that you're a reader. Kids are more likely to grow up loving to read if they see that you enjoy it too.
- 5.** Surround your child with words — spoken and written — from birth. Even the simplest everyday conversations build his vocabulary and sound-recognition skills. Frequent exposure to letters and print helps pre-readers learn the alphabet and recognize words by sight. Have fun with language: Sing songs, read rhymes, play word games.
- 6.** Get your child a library card and make a regular date for visits to the library.
- 7.** Make books available in every room of your home — as well as your car — so that reading can happen spontaneously.
- 8.** Feed a passion: Help your child find books, magazines, and other written materials that relate to a special interest or hobby.
- 9.** Limit “screen time” (TV, video games, and computer games) so that it does not cut into time better spent reading.
- 10.** Writing supports reading and vice versa. Provide crayons, pens, pencils and paper and encourage your child to write. Anything will do: letters, shopping lists, journal entries, original stories, etc.