

Your Curious Kid and You!



GETTING READY TO READ

Narrative Skills is the ability to describe things and events, and to tell stories. Researchers find that this skill helps children to understand what they are reading, when they start to read.

You help by:

Talking to them about what you are doing, even as you go about daily tasks
Encouraging children to speak
Listening to them carefully
Encouraging their questions
Explaining as best you can

ACTIVITIES BY AGE

BABIES

Talking to your baby is the best way to develop language. Leave time for your baby to “answer”. If he turns away from you, he has had enough for now. As you go through your day, notice when you do not talk with your baby. Look at your baby and tell her what you are doing.

TODDLERS

Toddlers often ask questions like, “What’s that?” over and over again. Add information to what they ask. If they point to a picture of a cow, tell them. “That’s a cow.” Say cow, and let them try to say the word. Give them lots of time to answer. Then you can add, “This cow is white with black spots.” Or “Cows give us

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milk." As your toddler asks you simple questions, make sure to add information to what he says.

TWO- AND THREE-YEAR OLDS

When you read a book with your child, ask him, "What is happening here?" or "What do you see on this page?" Ask questions that cannot be answered with a yes or no, or by just pointing to a picture. Let him use the words he knows. If he does not know, you can tell him what you think. Then let him try to repeat.

FOUR- AND FIVE-YEAR-OLDS

Have your child draw a picture. Then let him tell you what is happening in the picture. Write down his words on his picture.

**Enjoy your time together.
If it's not a pleasant experience,
try another time.**



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