



Tips for Reading Aloud

- Not all books are good read alouds.
- Read stories that you enjoy. Stop reading a book if it turns out to be a poor choice.
- Approach reading aloud to your child, not as something you should do, but as a fun activity.
- Fathers should make an extra effort to read to their children. Because 88% of primary-school teachers are women, young boys often associate reading with women and schoolwork....too many fathers would rather be seen playing catch....than taking them to the library....a father's early involvement with books and reading can do much to elevate books to at least the same status as sports in a boy's estimation.
- Read with your voice (raise, lower, speed up, slow down, character-voices) and your eyes (widen, narrow).
- For older children, who have not been read to, start out slowly (and don't mention educational benefit)--just a page or two, a newspaper article, etc.
- The first time you read a book, discuss the illustration on the cover and/or the title of the book and ask, "What do you think this is going to be about?"
- As you read, keep listeners involved by occasionally asking, "What do you think is going to happen next?"
- Allow your child to ask you questions while you read. Enjoy conversations about the reading.
- Model your own thinking, as you enjoy and make sense of the text.
- Occasionally read above your child's intellectual level and challenge his/her mind.
- If appropriate, read so that your child can see the text.
- Opt for quality rather than quantity.