

Tips for Creating a Reader-Friendly Home

(from kidshealth.org)

Sometimes we all need a little encouragement to stop what we are doing, and pick up a good book. Creating a reader friendly environment in your home is one of the best ways to encourage your child to spend some time reading. Here are some tips that can help make your home a reader-friendly home!

Try to keep a varied selection

Collect board books or books with mirrors and different textures for babies. Preschoolers enjoy alphabet books, rhyming books and picture books. Elementary-aged kids will enjoy variety: fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, plus dictionaries and other reference books. Keeping magazines (for kids) and newspapers round the house also shows children that reading is a skill they will use in many aspects of their lives.

Keep reading material handy

Keep sturdy books with other toys for easy exploration. Books near the changing table and high chair can be helpful distractions for younger kids at appropriate moments. Plastic books can even go in the bathtub. Keep books next to comfy chairs and sofas where you cuddle up so you can read after feedings and before naps.

Create a special reading space

As kids grow, keep age-appropriate books and magazines on shelves they can reach in their favorite hangouts around the house. Make these shelves appealing and keep them organized. Place some of the books with the covers facing out so they're easy to spot. Put a basket full of books and magazines next to their favorite places to sit. Create a cozy reading corner, and encourage kids to use it by setting up "reading corner time" each day.

Keep it appealing











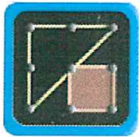





Make sure reading areas have good lighting. Try to change the materials often-add seasonal books, rotate different magazines, or maybe include some books that relate to what you child is studying in school. If your child likes audio books, place a simple CD or tape player nearby.

Encourage kids to create the reading

Set up a writing and art center and encourage kids to make books, posters, or collages that they decorate with their own pictures and writing. Kids love to read things they've written themselves or to share their creations with family and friends.

Try to limit times kids spent in front of a screen (including TV, computer and video games) to help ensure that they have time for reading. Also-read together! Making a habit of sitting together while you each read your own books creates a comfortable atmosphere for children. They get to experience a story and spend time with Mom and Dad.

FAVORITE APPS FOR PARENTS

General Use	Literacy	Math	Science and S.S.
 <p>Seesaw - students share, narrate, and annotate their work; can take pictures and videos to add to their journal</p>  <p>BrainPOP Brainpop, Jr. Movie of the Week - short videos on a variety of topics</p>  <p>ABC Ya - educational games in math and reading</p>  <p>Google Expeditions - go on a virtual field trip to over 800 locations around the world!</p>	 <p>RazKids - foundational literacy skills</p>  <p>Khan Academy Kids - foundational literacy skills</p>  <p>Epic! Books</p>  <p>StarFall - foundational reading skills</p>	 <p>Reflex Math - math fact practice</p>  <p>Khan Academy Kids - foundational math skills</p>  <p>Khan Academy - lessons to students based on current skill instruction</p>  <p>Virtual Manipulatives! - free app with math manipulatives</p>  <p>Geoboard - a digital version of the traditional geometry tool</p>	 <p>WWF Together - learn about amazing animals! (Endangered Species)</p>  <p>Scratch, Jr. - Intro to Coding</p>  <p>Google Earth - see anywhere on the Earth</p>  <p>Google Sky Map - real time night sky view</p>  <p>World Book: This Day in History</p>