

## Activities to Help Children Develop Pre-Reading Skills

- Read with your child every day, even if it's only for a few minutes
- Encourage your child to bring his favorite book to you so you can read together
- Point to pictures and name them out loud, and encourage your child to point to pictures while you read
- Talk with your child throughout the day about things you are doing and things that are happening around you
- Be patient when your child wants to read the same book over and over again
- Encourage your child to "play" with books-pick them up, point to the pictures and letters, and turn the pages
- Help your child hear and say the first sound in words (like "b" in boat), and notice when different words start with the same sound ("boat" and "bear")
- Help your child recognize words that rhyme (moose, goose, caboose)
- Introduce new words to your child and help them understand their meaning
- Point out signs and labels that have letters, such as street signs and foods in the grocery store. Help your child see that print is all around us.
- Encourage your child to find joy and fun in reading. Let children pick out the books you read.
- Talk with your child about stories and make connections to things that happen in your everyday life.
- Point to words as you read them on a page
- Introduce books by their title, and talk about the author and illustrator
- Ask your child open ended questions as you read to them

## Open-Ended Questions to Use with Kids

1. What would happen if...
2. I wonder what...
3. What do you think might happen when...
4. How did that happen?
5. What do you need to do to begin the project?
6. How does it work?
7. What do you think is happening?
8. What might you change?
9. Can you think of...
10. What is your plan?
11. I wonder how...
12. What is the best part of being the oldest in your family?
13. Will you tell me about a time when someone was kind to you today?
14. What do you think might happen next?
15. What made you think of that?
16. How could you...
17. What do you see?
18. Tell me why...
19. What should we put here?
20. Tell me what...
21. Can you think of other ways to...
22. Do you have any ideas...
23. How could we figure that out?
24. Which design is your favorite & why?
25. What might you keep the same?
26. Now tell me about a time when...
27. How do you come up with that solution?
28. Tell me how...
29. Help me fix this...
30. Do you have any ideas for solutions?
31. Are there any other ways we could...
32. What do you think?