

***For younger readers, use the power of pictures to be a better reader.***

- Own some children's books, but also borrow from the library or pick up used books at yard sales.
- Have books within reach of children. For baby, put board books in a basket on the floor next to the toys. For pre-schoolers, make sure books are on lower shelves where children can get them.
- Stand some books up on a table or in the bookcase so their front cover is facing out and they are more noticeable.
- Take photos of your child enjoying a book and put that picture on the refrigerator, in a photo album or in a picture frame.
- Give books as gifts for special occasions like birthdays and holidays.
- Let your children see you reading books, magazines, letters and emails.
- Play with words! Sing nursery rhymes, say tongue twisters, make up silly word combinations with your child.
- Talk to your child about the books you read together. Talk to your child about what you do together. Children learn words by hearing them and using them.
- Do things with your child that you read about in children's storybooks, like baking cookies, visiting a park, going for a walk. Relate the books you read to real life.
- Read to your child every day!

From [www.kidsneedtoread.org](http://www.kidsneedtoread.org)