



FUN IDEAS TO ENCOURAGE READING FOR PLEASURE



MAKE TIME TO READ ALOUD

Who doesn't love a story and a snuggle! Neuroscience research confirms connections between narrative reading in childhood, memory creation and life-long feelings of well-being. Reading the same book again and again creates neural pathways that link to positive emotions we can return to throughout life.



READ ALL THE THINGS!

Stories are a wonderful opening to different worlds, but that's not all there is - lots of children are drawn to non-fiction, and comics are awesome too! Recipe books, magazines and craft books offer a wealth of possibilities for developing literacy and life skills, all while having fun.



GIVE KIDS CHOICES

Research shows children are more engaged, learn more and make more effort when they choose reading materials for themselves. This is true even for very young children and when minimal choice is involved, such as selecting their preferred book from 2 options.



TRY PODCASTS & AUDIOBOOKS

Going on a family holiday or a long drive? A family audiobook is the perfect solution to keep passengers happy and drivers alert during long car trips. On breaks or between trips, everyone will love talking about the story and predicting what will happen next!



DO READ AT THE DINNER TABLE!

Your posh aunt Primrose may not approve, but as Katharine Hepburn said, "If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun!" Designate one or two meals a week as 'reading meals', where reading at the table is encouraged. To make it extra special, you could plan the meal around a literary theme and let everyone help with the cooking.



MAKE IT SOCIAL

There are lots of ways to share a love of books and reading. Neighbourhood book club, book swap, literary charades, poetry open mic night (with popcorn and prizes), put on a 'play' retelling a favourite story. You are only limited by your imagination, which luckily is supercharged thanks to all the reading you've been doing.

Adapted from an article by Nora Krug published in The Washington Post, 28 August 2017.

<http://wapo.st/2jwmrww>

Softlink
Education