

# Recommendations for Building Strong Readers

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## **Setting the Stage for learning**

Have different reading and writing tools available, such as magazines, books, message boards, pens/pencils/marker and notebooks to show the importance of reading and writing.

Make a comfortable place and a regular time for reading.

Read to your child. When families include reading as a part of the schedule for the family, they are modeling that they value reading.

## **Reading with Your Child**

Choose books that they can read on their own to improve their comfort with reading at a steady pace. In order to figure this out, have your child read a page or two and if they only make 1-2 errors (for pages with only a sentence or two) or less than five errors on a lengthier page, that is a 'just right' book.

Take turns reading with your child. This may include reading a page or even a sentence and then asking your child to read the same sentence/page. Children like reading the same books over and over and this builds confidence. Using silly voices for the characters makes reading fun.

Ask your child questions while reading, such as:

- *Wh' questions (who, what, where, when, why...What is the penguin doing? Who is the story about?). You can begin asking questions starting with the cover, looking at the title/picture.*
- *What did you notice?*
- *Does this book remind you of anything? Have you ever felt like (name of character)?*
- *Does this book make you think of anything else you've read?*
- *What was your favorite part? Was there a part of the book that surprised you? Why?*
- *Any other thoughts on what you just read? What are you going to read next?*
- *What happened in the (beginning/end) of the story?*

**We value your support and look forward to working with you as a team to build your child's skills in reading!**