

## Tips for Reading Aloud



Reading to children is one of the best things we can do to develop literacy, comprehension, and critical thinking skills. And, it's a fun activity to do together!

Here are a few tips to make the most of reading aloud - specifically if you're going to video yourself for **#TogetherWeRead** and **#SaveWithStories** - and helpful reminders for whenever you read to a child!

1. **Introduce yourself** (*Hi, I'm (first name) and I live in (location). I'm excited to reading this story with you today - it's one of my favorites because...*)
2. **Introduce the book** - Say the book title, the author (and the illustrator!)
3. **Mention something about the cover or the title** Mention something about it that makes you wonder or reminds you about, or something you have done. (*That's quite a crazy bicycle! I love to ride bikes, do you? Let's see what happens.*)
4. **Read the story** - use expression (voices for characters), vary your pace (*slower for emphasis, quicker when things are exciting*) if that's comfortable for you. Don't worry if you misread a word or a sentence - just go back and reread it (*Rereading is a great strategy to model for young readers - if readers misread or don't understand something the first time, they read it again*)
5. **Show the pictures** to reinforce the message of the text. Take your time so the child can make connections between what they heard and what they thought about (*this gives the child time to confirm or correct understanding and developing critical thinking skills*)
6. Once or twice, **comment on the story or the pictures**. Verbalize a thought that comes to you. This is modeling what effective readers do: actively thinking about what the text. (*Look at that chicken riding the bike - I hope she doesn't fall! I wonder what will happen next! Wow, I didn't expect that to happen!*)
7. Briefly **comment on ending**. What surprised you about the story? Was there something about the character that you admired? (*Nandi was such a good friend to share the fruit with her friends*)
8. **Thank the listener**. (*Thanks for listening, I hope you enjoyed this story as much as I enjoyed reading it*)



Enjoy the experience - be natural! Choose a story that you enjoy - for the message, the humor, or the illustrations! Use these tips as they work for you - don't worry if you don't use them! Just by reading aloud, you are sharing the amazing gift of literacy -and caring!

