



Strategies for Reading with Children

1. Echo Reading
You read a line or portion of dialogue, and the child repeats it, imitating your expression.
2. Choral Reading
Adult and child read aloud together which can be done with any book. At first, the adult may take the lead and “pull” the child along. Don’t worry if the child lags behind you as you read together.
3. Repeated Reading
Adult and child read a short book or section of a book several times to improve fluency and expression.
4. Dialogue Reading
Both adult and child take the parts of characters, or the parts of a narrator and a character.
5. Alternate sentence and paragraph reading
Similar to dialogue reading, you can take turns reading each sentence or each paragraph.
6. Reading Silently
Both adult and child read a selection silently. Adult and child can read a page silently, reflect, and then talk about the meaning. Either can read a line or section orally to prove their statements or opinions. This encourages critical thinking.
7. Favorite-part Reading
Adult and child each read aloud their favorite part of a story that they have already read. Each of them can page through a book and select a portion of text or a page to read aloud to the other. When children hesitate or stumble on the words you can just join in reading with them.
8. Reading to Verify
Either the adult or the child searches for a section to read aloud that supports something they have said about the story. This works well with middle and upper elementary children.
9. Supplying a Word
With children who aren’t really reading yet, it works well to pause before reading the last word at the end of a line that rhymes with a previous line. After a brief hesitation to give the child a chance to come up with the word, the adult can supply it.