

Activity 2

14 Mini-Tips to Stimulate Your Child's Interest in Reading

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1. Read to your child as often as possible, even if he or she already knows how to read.
2. Leave short messages in your child's lunchbox or on his or her pillow. Your child will run to ask your help in reading the message.
3. Ask members of your extended family to send your child letters by mail, and encourage him or her to reply with a short letter or a drawing.
4. Allow your child to read at bedtime.
5. Buy a subscription to a children's magazine.
6. Begin keeping a notebook where you can write messages to your child or vice versa. Use it to leave encouraging notes, write down jokes and ask questions about things that happened today, etc.
7. Help your child find the type of books that he or she will find fascinating.
8. Read your child's favourite books, and discuss the story and characters with him or her. Make sure not to always ask comprehension questions as this may lead to your child avoiding these discussions.
9. Talk to your child about your favourite books, other material you have read and pleasant discoveries you have made through books.
10. Offer various types of reading material: stories, comic strips, newspaper articles, magazines, short messages, informational books, etc.
11. Do a quick Internet search and print the lyrics to your child's favourite songs.
12. Find attractive and fun activity books to familiarize your child with print materials.
13. Look for ways to make your child aware of how useful writing is in everyday life. The more a young child understands the usefulness of reading and writing, the more he or she will be motivated to learn.
14. Give encouragement after each success and whenever an interest in books is shown.

