

The Importance of Reading to Your Child

Reading to your children is valuable in countless ways. Reading provides:

- a storehouse of knowledge
- memories that last a lifetime
- valuable family bonding time

Reading helps your child develop four basic thinking skills:

- the ability to pay attention
- a good memory
- the ability to solve problems
- good language skills

It also helps your child with:

- speech
- words for life
- ability to understand
- ability to write
- eagerness to read

The single best way to encourage these skills is to read out loud to your children. You can't start too early, and you can't continue too long. Experts recommend that you start reading to your newborn and continue at least through fifth grade.