

Read 1000 Books before Kindergarten Club Pre-Reading Skills



You are your child's first and most important teacher! You know your child best and can work with them at times when they are in the mood to learn.

What **you** do helps your child get ready to read. There are six pre-reading skills that children must have in order to learn to read. You can practice these skills with your child at any age, from infant on up, just adapt it to their age.

Narrative Skills

What it is: Being able to describe things and events and tell stories

What you can do: Tell stories to your child. Have them tell you stories. Practice what happens first, next, and last. Relate what is going on in the story to something similar you have done.

Phonological Awareness

What it is: Being able to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.

What you can do: Play rhyming games. Ask, "Do cat and dog rhyme? Do cat and hat rhyme?" Sing songs and clap out the syllables in the words. Put two words together - "What if we put hot and dog together?" And take them apart - "What would you have if we took cow away from cowboy?"

Print Motivation

What it is: Being interested in and enjoying books.

What you can do: Make book sharing a special time. Let your child see you read. Visit your library often. Let your child know that you value reading in your daily life.

Vocabulary

What it is: Knowing the names of things.

What you can do: Talk with your child about what's going on around you. Point at and identify everyday items as you encounter them. Add more details to things your child tells you. Read together every day! Research shows that children who have larger vocabularies are better readers.

Print Awareness

What it is: Noticing print, knowing how to handle a book and knowing how to follow the words on a page.

What you can do: Read aloud everyday print - labels, signs, lists, menus. Let your child hold the book and turn the pages. Hold a book upside down and see if your child notices.

Letter Knowledge

What it is: Knowing letters are different from each other, knowing their names and sounds and recognizing letters everywhere.

What you can do: Write your child's name. Make letters from clay. Play with magnetic letters. Read alphabet books and point out the letters. Show your child that the same letter can look different.