

Help your child connect with reading



Your child might be learning to read, but that doesn't mean he will automatically love the task. You can develop his interest by helping him make connections with what he's reading. For example, you can:

- **Ask questions that encourage your child** to relate. "The main character in your book had to face a fear. What similar fears have you faced? Did you and the character handle your fears in comparable ways?"
- **Be flexible about reading material.** If your child is not interested in reading a novel, have him read a comic book or a how-to article. Then talk about what he has read.
- **Create family routines that are based on reading.** Make it a habit to read together on a regular basis. Visit



the library together, hold regular reading nights, act out plays. When your child associates reading with family fun, he'll look forward to your reading activities.

- **Surround your child with positive messages** about reading. Keep a wide variety of materials around the house. Show him that reading is an important part of your life. Share interesting things you read and ask your child what he thinks.