

# Reading aloud improves your child's skills



Reading aloud to children, even once they know how to read on their own, continues to strengthen family bonds. It's also a great way to continue building your child's reading skills.

When you read aloud with your child, choose books that are a bit harder than he can read on his own. Leave some time at the end for your child to read to you. As he progresses, gradually increase the amount of time he reads aloud.

When your child reads to you, follow these tips:

- **Let him choose the books** he wants to read. You'll both have more fun if you're reading something he likes.
- **Listen to see if he understands** what he's reading. Clues will come in the tone of his voice. For example, does it rise for a question?



- **Periodically ask questions.** These questions should help him think about what he's reading, and they don't have to have a right answer. Say, "Why do you think the main character did that?"
- **Don't jump in right away.** If he's having trouble with a word, have him read to the end of the sentence. Can he figure out the word then? If not, tell him the word and let him move on.