

Boost comprehension with reading strategies



One of the most important elements of reading is *comprehension*. Your child should be able to understand and make sense of what you read together—that’s what makes the reading meaningful.

To strengthen your preschooler’s comprehension skills, encourage participation when you read aloud. Ask your child to:

- **Visualize the story.** Can your child picture the story in his or her mind?
- **Make predictions.** Occasionally, stop and ask your child to guess what’s going to happen next in the story.
- **Make connections.** Talk about how certain events in the story relate to real life. Has your child ever had to make a decision like one of the characters did?



- **Use illustrations to tell the story.** Choose a favorite picture book and point to an image that contains lots of action. Say, “I’m not sure what’s happening in this picture. Can you tell me about it?”
- **Retell.** When you finish reading, challenge your child to tell you what happened in the story.