

HOW PARENTS CAN GET INVOLVED WITH READING TO KIDS

- Make sure your child has a library card.
- Read to a child in your life for 20 minutes a day no matter how old.
- Read to your child early in life so that it becomes a lifelong habit.
- Volunteer at your local school to read to a child.
- Volunteer at your library to help with the summer reading program.
- Model, model, model be an example – make sure your child sees you reading. It helps know that reading is important to you.
- Make reading a family activity. Select a book that you can all read together.
- Together read about places that you will visit on your family vacation.
- Start a family book club and discussion group.
- Attend family programs that revolve around reading. These are usually found at your local library.
- Read picture books to your big kids, not just to the little ones.
- Read books about your family's favorite movie.
- Remember your favorite childhood book, read it to your kids.
- Make a scrapbook of your summer fun – writing is an important part of encouraging literacy!

HOW TO KEEP KIDS READING OVER THE SUMMER

- Introduce your child to the librarian, she or he knows where all the good books are located.
- Visit your local library weekly to check out books and fun programs.
- Have your child join the Summer Reading Program at your local library.
- Buy a magazine subscription in your child's name on topics that he/she enjoys.
- Take books wherever you go -- doctor's office, park, playground.
- Keep books and/or talking books in the car for those long trips.
- Give your child at the beginning of the summer, a gift by giving him/her a book.
- Set up a reading area in the home and read together as a family.
- Buy your child a flashlight, so he/she will be tempted to read under the covers.
- Encourage your child to choose the books they want to read.
- After a visiting the polar bears at the zoo, read more about this huge mammal.
- Have an older child read to a younger sibling.
- Invite your child to keep a reading journal listing the books he/she read. Decorate it with stickers and markers.
- Talk with your children about books over dinner.
- Start a library at home for your child.



City of Chicago
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