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Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success
Connecticut State Department of Education



Create a Language-Rich Environment

Create a Reading Routine

- Make time to read each day. Set up a comfortable corner in your home that's just for reading. You can even enjoy audiobooks while traveling.

Include Storytelling

- Ask each other questions about your day: "Who did you see at recess?" "What did you practice in math?" "What did you eat for lunch?"
- Show your child a picture and tell them to make a story based on the picture.
- Retell a story or act it out. Make up a story with objects from around your home. Create alternate endings of your favorite stories and TV shows.

Use environmental print

- Find same-letter or same-sound examples on things like signs and food labels.



Families and Schools as Partners: Creating a Literacy-Filled Routine





The Power of Interactive Reading

Have a Conversation

- "Can you tell me what happened when the character said ___?"
- Repeat back what the child says. "Yes, that is an awesome car!"
- "How would you feel if that happened to you?"

Ask Open-Ended Questions

- "Can you tell me what's happening on this page?"

Ask: Who, What, Where, When, Why, How

- "Who is the little boy talking to?"

Use Your Voice

- Model reading with lots of expression.

Making Connections

- "This story reminds me of the TV show you watched."

Quality Screen Time

- Choose television shows that match your family's values.
- Help your child choose programs that are right for their age and interests.
- Keep screens out of your child's bedroom so that you know what they're watching, how much they're watching, and when they're watching.
- Use books or activities that add to the learning from screen time.
- Let your child watch their favorite shows again and again.
- Take pauses from screen time and discuss what you're seeing with your child.
- After your child watches something, encourage them to draw a picture about what they saw or heard.
- Help your child make connections between what they see on television and their own lives.
- Use screen time as a way to learn something new like a dance, a song, a recipe, a craft, or even a new language!

Adapted from WETA.org



CommonSenseMedia.org publishes independent ratings for TV shows, movies, apps, and games written for parents and educators.

Where Can I Find More Stories?

Find your local library by going to LibraryFinder.org.

Find a Little Free Library by going to LittleFreeLibrary.org/map

Story channels on YouTube:

PBS Kids
StoryBerries
StoryNory
Storyline Online
Vooks

Audiobook Apps
Audible
Libby
Hoopla

HAPPY READING!

