



Children fall in love
with books because
of the memories
created when they
snuggle up and
read with someone
they love.

(Raising Readers)



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Reading aloud with your child

Reading aloud with your child can be a very special time together. Reading together builds hope and opens up new worlds, different ideas, viewpoints and possibilities. It builds our understandings of others and helps us be more caring.

Here are some things that you can enjoy as you read together:

- **creating interest** in the book by first **exploring** the front and back book covers together
- talking about the story **before, during and after** reading
 - What do you think the story is going to be about?
 - Close your eyes and imagine what you think might happen next.
 - How do you think this person is feeling?
 - How do you know?
 - What should they do?
 - Was there anything you liked about the book? Didn't like?
 - Was there anything you didn't understand?
 - What can you see in the picture?
- **playing with voice** as you read together to make the story more interesting or exciting. Rhymes will help your child explore the sound of words and develop their speaking skills. Young children delight in repeating rhyming and nonsense words and phrases over and over again.
- asking your child to **help you read** the book by turning the pages for you. You can start early with board books. This helps the child understand how a book works.
- **pausing** before the last word at the end of a page when the child is familiar with a book and encouraging them to 'read' the word out loud themselves.
 - **creating** an artwork that expresses how the story made us feel
 - **dressing up** or using a prop to pretend you are a favourite character

