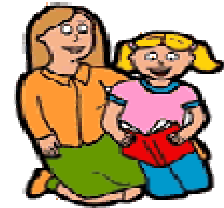


# READ, SING, TALK, PLAY...A FAMILY AFFAIR!

## READING TIPS FOR EARLY READERS

Every child is different in terms of when they acquire the skills they need to attempt new print and read familiar print with ease. For many, the primary school years is when this happens. When your child reaches this stage, they will still enjoy listening to you read and reading with you, but they may also be ready to read some books on their own.

- Encourage your child to read familiar story books to you or to their younger siblings.
- Keep a variety of books within your child's reach, i.e., poetry books, magazines, comics, information books, joke books, etc.
- Help your child to find books that are of interest to them and within their reading level by visiting the library, a local book store, etc.
- Easy chapter books that contain pictures along with the text may be now be of interest to your child. They may still need to read out loud or may wish to start reading silently. Encourage them to come to you for an explanation if they don't understand a word or phrase.
- Your child will get better at reading for meaning if you get them to think about what they read. You can do this by asking questions about the story. Some of these questions may be about details, i.e., What was the name of the character?, Where did the story take place?, etc. Other questions may get them thinking, i.e., What did you like about the story?, How was the story different from the movie?, etc.



**Most of all, fit reading into your daily routine. Not only will this introduce reading as an important life skill, but also will allow you to spend some quality time together. Reading with drama and expression (i.e., different voices for different characters, louder tone if someone is yelling, softer tone if someone is whispering, sad voice if someone is sad) helps children learn to read as they talk (with fluency). Your child may now want to read to themselves. Share a couch while you each read your own material.**