WHY READING DURING EARLY CHILDHOOD IS IMPORTANT

• A child’s brain is 80% developed by the time they are 3 years old.
• Through reading, children begin to learn words and sounds, recognize pictures, and understand emotions.
• Reading with your child helps to grow your relationship. Healthy relationships build strong emotional connections.
• Just a few minutes a day of reading aloud to your child improves school readiness.

TIPS FOR READING AT HOME

Use funny voices and animal noises to help your child be excited.

If your child asks a question, stop and answer. The book may help your child solve their own problems and express their thoughts and feelings.

Read aloud to your child every day to help build connections in their brains.
Reach Out and Read gives young children a foundation for success by incorporating books and guidance about shared reading into pediatric care. Reach Out and Read offers bilingual books in 26 languages. Children can see themselves and their world through stories and characters that reflect and affirm a diverse range of identities. Research shows that parents in the Reach Out and Read program are 27 percent more likely to read with their children every day.

Find A Reach Out and Read medical provider

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Ohio mails kids one free book each month until their fifth birthday. Any child under the age of five can enroll. Each awesome book is specifically selected to match your child’s age.

Sign up at OhioImaginationLibrary.org