

Let's Read!

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Language and Literacy

What You Need:



- Children's books

What To Do:

1. Let your child pick a book to read.
2. Have him sit close to you. Point out and read the title and the names of the author and the illustrator.
3. Read the book with him, changing the tone of your voice to match the mood of the story. For example, use a loud voice when there is a lot of action or a quiet voice when something sad or scary is happening.
4. Involve your child by having him turn the pages and by asking questions about the story. You might ask, "What do you think will happen next?" or "How do you think (fill in character's name) feels?"
5. At the end of the book, ask questions about what happened, where the events took place, and what he liked or did not like about the story.
6. When he is familiar with the story, ask him to "read" it to you. Let him tell you the story in his own words as you go through the book together.

VARIATION:



Learning to Grow

University of Hawai'i Center on the Family (CTAHR)

www.learningtogrowhawaii.org

Learning to Grow
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

Preview the book before reading it to your child, searching for words that your child may not know. Be prepared to explain their meanings. As you read the story, draw your child's attention to two or three of the new words. Talk to your child about the meaning of these new words. Then, try to use the words in a sentence. For example, if you just read, "Keoni and the shark (niuhi) were exhausted after swimming so far," ask your child what he thinks "exhausted" means. If he is not sure, use it in a sentence: "After we play at the beach, you always fall asleep on the way home because you are exhausted." Find different ways to use these new words in sentences as you are talking with your child later in the day or the week.

