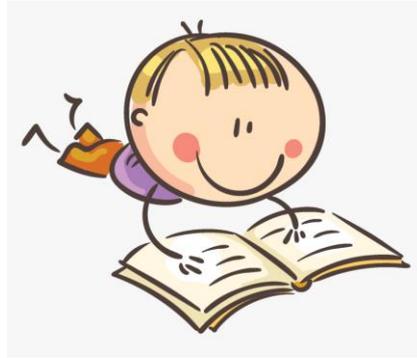


Exploring Books



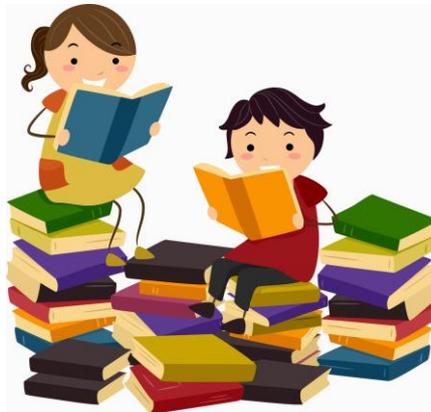
How to share books with your child

- **Let your child choose the book** - It's okay to make suggestions about which book to read from time to time, but allowing your child to choose the book ensures that they are truly interested.
- **Sit with your child, face to face** - While traditionally we think of sitting beside a child on a couch or in bed when reading, it is very helpful to **face your child** while reading. When you are face to face, you can read your child's cues and find out what interests them about the book. Your child will know you are interested in sharing the book with them if you are looking interested.
- **Allow your child to hold the book and turn the pages** - this will ensure that your child is actively involved. Don't worry if they skip some pages - the goal is to make the book interactive and fun.
- **Let your child "read" the book in their own way** - some children will look at a few pages or flip through the book for a few moments. Others will want to look at the entire book. Let your child look at the book at their own pace and according to their interests. You don't have to finish the book at one sitting!
- **It's okay to change things up!** - You don't have to read every word on the page. You can simplify the story or just talk about the pictures and not read the words.
- **It's ok to keep things the same!** - Some children love to look at the same book over and over again. There's no need to discourage this. The repetition and familiarity helps your child learn new words and develop a better understanding of the concepts in the book.
- **Wait** - for your child to do or say something. After you turn the page or read one page, wait silently. Avoid asking questions or pointing out anything particular on that page. Your goal is to give your child an opportunity to express themselves and take turns with you.

What are the children learning?

I enjoy exploring and choosing stories and other text to watch, read or listen to and can share my likes and dislikes. (LIT 0-01b)

- Show an interest in print, texts and pictures.
- Recognise and name familiar signs, labels, notices and logos.



Creating a Homemade Book

- A homemade book created especially for your child. By following these guidelines, you will create a book together that will be interactive and lots of fun to read many times.
- Think about your child's favourite things and outings - items can include photos of favourite people or things, packages or labels from favourite foods or toys (e.g. part of the Rice Krispies box) photos or small remnants from interesting places or outings (e.g. a ticket stub from a show, part of the Happy Meal box from a recent trip to McDonald's, a stone collected from the garden, a photo of your child getting a haircut or swimming. If you follow your child's lead and observe their interests, you will know exactly what to include in the book.
- Involve your child - your child can help you select pictures or objects, help you stick the pictures into the book and decide what to write on the page underneath the picture.
- Less is more - include just one picture or object per page.
- Ensure that the "text" makes sense to your child - When your child is the one who decides what to write on each page, it ensures that the text is from their perspective and at their level.