

Parent TIPS for summer reading and writing fun!

Read to your child daily.
Read the comics together.
Give the gift of a magazine subscription.
Read road signs wherever you go.
Visit the Library (once a week).
Explore the children's section together.
Get library cards for your children (they are FREE).
Create a reading journal.
Have your child read aloud cereal boxes, juice containers, and so on during breakfast.
Record a favorite story or magazine article so that your child can listen to it while reading.
Limit TV watching to free up time for reading.
Watch closed captioned TV with the sound off.
Let your child read aloud the television or movie schedule.
Invent products and write slogans or an ad for them.
Read a scary story to your child with the lights off using a flashlight.
Record your child reading a story and play it back for them.
Trace pictures and write your own captions.

Create "Family reading Night".
Pick a theme (western, mystery, multi-cultural, etc.) and dress-up to read.
Write and act out your own play or puppet show.
Encourage older siblings to read to their younger brothers and sisters.
Play games that are reading related.
Treat your children to an evening of laughter and entertainment featuring books!
Offer special incentives for reading.
Swap books with friends and family members.
Look for "garage sales" in your local newspaper, plan a trip with your child, and let them buy their own books.
Write and illustrate books together.
Have your child plan a menu for a special occasion.
Have your child write the grocery list as you dictate it.
Encourage your child to write a fan letter to a favorite sports, television, or music personality.
Have your child tell you a story while you write it down. Then reverse roles!

Clip out an interesting newspaper story and cut the paragraphs apart. Ask your child to put them back in order.
Write funny comments under family photos—better yet, create a scrapbook and write a family story. Leave notes, jokes, and fun observations around the house.
Create a family newsletter and send it to all your relatives.
Get road maps and highlight your route as you travel.
Encourage your child to write the Chamber of Commerce for brochures about places to plan to visit this summer.
Make a "Bingo Card" for things you might see on the trip.
Clip pictures for newspapers, magazines, etc. and ask your child to describe them to you. Write a story to go with the picture.
Extend your child's positive reading and writing experiences with follow-up activities.