

A Note From Mrs. Costello: I've been asked by many parents how to get their children engaged in reading. Make...it...fun. If you truly enjoy reading to your children, they will take on that love of reading.

Here are some further tips:

6 Ways to Help Your Child Become a Better Reader

1. Help your child acquire a wide range of knowledge.

With the pandemic going on, take your child on virtual trips to zoos, museums, etc. This builds background knowledge needed as children learn to read textbooks. This is a favorite National Geographic clip of mine: [Orangutan and Dog Best Friends](#)

2. Talk with your child about his/her experiences.

This helps children learn new words and their meanings.

3. Encourage your child to think about events.

Asking your child to describe events helps him/her learn to give good descriptions and tell complete stories

4. Read aloud to your child

This is probably the single most important activity you can do to affect reading success.

5. Provide your child with writing materials.

Children are often eager to write; encourage them by having paper, pencils, and crayons in your home. (My personal favorites are Flair markers. :))

6. Encourage your child to watch TV/Youtube/Netflix, etc programs that have educational value. Pay attention to what your children are watching. Most children who have 20 or more hours of screen time a week don't do as well in school. I know everything is virtual with the pandemic, but when they aren't doing their schooling, try to find ways to keep them away from screens.