

# Reading Aloud

Research and practice show that one simple activity — reading aloud — is the best way to *prepare children* for learning to read and to *keep them reading* as they learn and grow.

Reading aloud helps your children develop the language skills that they will use in school and throughout their lives.



Reading aloud also creates a special time for you to bond with your children. Cuddle together as you share adventures. Laugh at silly characters, root for heroes, and wag your fingers at villains. And do it together. At the same time, you'll be helping your children develop a lifelong appreciation for reading.

**Why read aloud?** Because reading aloud:

- Is great fun, and it benefits your children's growth as readers and learners.
- Nurtures your children's love of both the written and spoken word.
- Gives you a chance to rediscover favorite stories and find new ones.
- Helps your children develop important language skills that will help them learn to read on their own.

## Web Resources to Explore

- **Parents Choice: Read Aloud Together List** <http://www.parents-choice.org/readlist.cfm>  
On this site, you'll find a suggested list of "Read Aloud Together Comfort Books."
- **Carol Hurst's Recommended Books for Reading Aloud**  
<http://www.carolhurst.com/profsubjects/reading/readingaloud.html>  
Browse this list compiled by Carol Hurst, leading children's literature expert.
- **Jim Trelease's Read Aloud Book Lists**  
<http://www.trelease-on-reading.com>  
Trelease offers selections from the "Treasury of Great Read-Alouds" section of the *Read-Aloud Handbook*. There are detailed summaries of wordless books, picture books, short novels, and novels, including author and publisher information.
- **Read Aloud Suggestions from the Family Literacy Foundation**  
[http://www.read2kids.org/readaloud\\_suggestions.htm](http://www.read2kids.org/readaloud_suggestions.htm)  
Make the most of reading aloud with these tips from the Family Literacy Foundation

