

READING *Tips*

Just Read!

Read to your child or have your child read to you daily!



It's a great way to start the day



After your evening meal



Just before bed to help everyone relax and sleep better

When will it work for you? Decide as a family and stick to it!

You and your child will look forward to this special time each day. Build reading into already existing routines. Is your bedtime routine to brush teeth and put on pajamas? Add a book! Think of routines you follow every day and decide how to add reading into the mix. Start small and stay consistent. Set a goal to increase the amount of time you read together as your routine becomes firmly established.

Not sure what to read? It may take some time to find the right fit but there are books out there for all interests. Below are some suggestions to get you started.

- **Birth – 3-year-olds** love nursery rhymes and songs, books with repeating lines, and books with rhymes.
- **4–8-year-olds** still love picture books and early chapter books such as “The Magic Treehouse” series.
- **6–9-year-olds** enjoy more complex chapter books such as “The Diary of a Wimpy Kid” series.
- **8-12-year-olds** enjoy middle-grade novels with more developed characters and storylines such as the “Amulet” series.
- **12-18-year-olds** enjoy Young Adult (YA) novels that focus on relatable teen experiences and themes.

Set expectations!

Set the expectation that reading will happen at a certain time every day for the whole family!

This time should be enjoyable and engaging.

- Choose books together and reread favorites frequently
- Designate an area without distractions (especially no TV, phone, iPad) where you will read together
- Set a timer so your child knows how long you will be reading together (aim for 30 minutes, even if you start with 15 mins)
- Encourage your child to “reread” the book to you

If your student would rather do the reading, let them read out loud to you or you can both read the same book at the same time and talk about it.

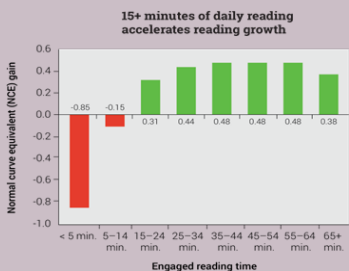
Track your progress

Kids love to track their achievements. Use sticker charts, charts they can color on, or create other ways to track and watch their list of books grow. Use the attached chart to let your child(ren) mark their reading.

After 10 days have been filled in, celebrate! You can even tie that celebration into reading:

- take a trip to the library and find new books
- illustrate and hang up the drawing of a favorite story
- act out a story for the family
- play word games

It's amazing what even 15 minutes of daily reading can do to support your child's growth in reading.



Get your student excited about reading! If you're excited, they'll be excited too! Make reading together a special time of day so everyone can look forward to it. Aim for 30 minutes, but if you don't have 30 minutes, any amount of time will do! 15 minutes of reading a day has been proven to accelerate reading growth for students.



South Dakota
MTSS: Family
Tips Survey

Reading challenge: Create a reading routine

Designate a time each day to read to your student or have them read to you. Use a reading tracker to record your reading sessions and help keep you on target to create your reading routine. Celebrate when you and your student have read together for 10 days in a row!

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