



Macmillan Collector's Library Family Reading Tips

It's never too early to share a classic book with a child!

Classic books hold a special place in many people's hearts. But before children can love the classics, they need to develop a love of reading. Here are some of our favorite tips to help turn the children in your life into lifelong readers.

Read every day! Make books a part of your life by keeping books in every room your home. That way you and your children are ready to read at any moment.

Get comfy! Snuggle up somewhere warm and cosy when you read together. This will make the experience more memorable and fun. Also, make sure older children have a comfortable reading space where they can curl up with a book too.

Join your local library. Children who have library cards always have access to thousands of fantastic print and digital books.

Let children read about topics they're interested in. Ask your child what he or she wants to read about, and then help find a book about it. This will make them more likely to engage and connect with the book.

Read aloud and read with emotion. Reading in silly voices and making sounds turns reading a book into an experience. A good rule of thumb is, if you're enjoying reading the book, then your child is enjoying listening to it!

Read favorite books over and over again. Encourage your child to reread the books they love. Rereading helps build fluency and confidence.

Encourage children to talk about books. To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read. Start with "Can you tell me what's happened in the story so far?," "What do you think will happen next?," and "What do you like or not like about this book?". Talking about a book's characters and plot helps children connect to it. It is also an excellent way for you to get to know each other, as well as acting as springboard for discussing real life situations and issues.

Read whenever and wherever. Model how important reading is in our lives by reading everywhere. You can do this by keeping a book or magazine with you all the time, sharing a book while you're waiting for appointments, reading cereal boxes at the breakfast table, and even listening to books while you're in the car.

Always read before bed. Read at least one book (or chapter of a book) with your kids at bedtime. Not only is it a great way to wind down at the end of the day, it's a perfect way to spend valuable time with them.

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