

Teach Your Children that Reading is Valuable & Fun



When children associate reading with closeness and pleasure they're more likely to want to learn to read themselves. Relax, talk, listen, and have fun as you read together.

Children love the closeness of snuggling and reading together. Consider turning off the television and not answering the phone while you read together.

To encourage your children to value reading, be sure that they read with you for a variety of reasons. Some reasons might be to get information (Where's the worm's head?), to help meet your day to day needs (What time does the bus come?), or for pure pleasure (This book is my favorite!).

Some parents enjoy looking at favorite magazines with their children. For example, if talking about the pictures and articles in a motorcycle magazine is fun for both you and your child, you can be sure that the pleasure of hearing your enthusiasm and looking at the magazine together will support your child's desire to learn to read later on!

For more information about early literacy, call your local youth librarian or Joan Laurion, Dane County UW Extension, 608-224-3722. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA. Let us know if you need this material in an alternative format.

Handout for parents: Print Motivation