

Are you helping your child be a confident reader?

When your child starts reading, he will probably ask you to listen to him. How you do this can affect his motivation to read—and his progress.

Are you doing all you can to boost your child's reading confidence? Answer yes or no to each question below to find out:

1. Do you have the right books? Try books with pictures, predictable stories and repetitive words and phrases.
2. Are you a good listener? Don't interrupt your child to correct him or to use teaching techniques such as sounding out words. Just have fun, laugh and enjoy the story.
3. Do you encourage your child to use picture clues and his memory to tell the story?
4. Do you give lots of praise and encouragement when your child reads?
5. Do you avoid criticizing? If your child gets discouraged, he can lose his confidence and desire to read.

How well are you doing?

Each yes means you are boosting your child's reading confidence. For no answers, try those ideas.

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