

**1. Create a Reading Zone**

- *Find a nice place to read. Maybe on a couch or an overstuffed chair. Make sure there is plenty of light for reading. Make this your special spot to read.*
- *Why? Being in a familiar place stimulates all the senses at once, making the experience pleasurable and memorable and creating positive associations with reading.*

**2. Get Close**

- *Have your child sit next to you to provide him/her with a feeling of security.*
- *Why? When a child feels insecure, the body releases a hormone that can interfere with learning. Creating a warm, close bond makes the child comfortable and can help him/her learn.*

**3. Make a Prediction**

- *Before you and your child start reading, look at the front cover of the book and make some prediction as to what the book may be about.*
- *Why? Making predictions activates students' prior knowledge about the text and helps them make connections between new information and what they already know. By making predictions about the text before, during, and after reading, students use what they already know—as well as what they suppose might happen—to make connections to the text.*

**4. Act Out**

- *You and your child can act out the characters and use variation in your voices while reading the story.*
- *Why? This helps your child develop critical listening skills and makes reading time more fun.*

**5. Make a Point**

- *Point out illustrations, shapes, colors, and page numbers.*
- *Why? This develops an understanding of printed material.*

**6. Word Power**

- *You and your child should enunciate your words while speaking as normally as possible while reading aloud.*
- *Why? When listening to someone reading, we listen to spoken language. This helps us with the ability to express thoughts and communicate using correct grammar.*

**7. Share and Compare**

- *Make comparisons as you and your child read. For example, "Which tree is taller?" Or, "You have blonde hair. What color hair does Goldilocks have?"*
- *Why? Comparing and contrasting helps your child create connections and discover meanings in these connections.*

**8. Ask Questions**

- *After finishing a story, ask your child what happened in the beginning, middle, and end. Ask your child why they think these events happened. Ask your child if your predictions were right. Why or why not?*
- *Why? This stimulates higher-order thinking because your child has to analyze the story and tell you in her own words what happened. This will also enhance your child's listening and reading comprehension skills.*

**9. Have Fun**

- ***The most important tip is to have fun. Reading is fun if we allow it to be fun. There is no perfect reading plan. Parents should do what is best for their child. You cannot fail at this project. Any time with your child is never going to be a failure. You just have to try...***

