

• Together Time •



Read Together 20
Minutes Every Day™

Make Your Own Books

Stack two blank sheets of paper together. Next, fold them in half to make a multi-page book with a cover. Use more paper to add more pages. Staple or stitch the folded edge to “bind” the book.

Help your child create a short story that progresses from page to page. Color and/or cut and paste illustrations. Children don't need new, wrinkle-free paper for their stories. Paper bags work well, as does used paper that has writing or print on only one side from the recycle bin. Use the unprinted side of cereal and cracker boxes for covers.



Books, Books, Books!

Did you know the number of books a child has at home growing up can propel or hinder his or her academic success? This doesn't mean you need to spend a lot of money on books when your child is young. It is about realizing the significance of having children's books at home and thinking about what you can do to ensure your child has access to books or other printed materials.

Whether you can afford to buy children's books on a regular basis or rely on the library to make sure your child has access to books at home, in the right column are some considerations to keep in mind when selecting children's books.

Research confirms, time after time, the importance of books and reading. To help build a strong foundation for your child's educational success, give them access to books and read with them for 20 minutes every day!

Birth to 18 months. Select books:

- with large, bright-colored pictures an infant can see at 10 inches
- that are vinyl, cloth, or cardboard, including some that make sounds
- that are washable
- with rhythm in the words



18 to 36 months. Select books:

- that your child enjoys
- with rhymes and poems
- about basic skills: colors, shapes, counting
- about everyday experiences

3 to 4 years. Select books:

- about the alphabet
- that are classic children's books
- including non-fiction books
- with longer stories

