

• Together Time •



Read Together 20
Minutes Every Day™

My Little Library

When a child organizes books, they develop a sense of appreciation for the print world. Spend some time this month helping your child arrange their little library. Organize the books alphabetically by title or author's name, just like they do at your local library. Or your child may use a less conventional method: sorting titles by personal favorites, topic, or by those best suited for younger and older siblings.

While you're at it, ask your child to pick a few books to bring to grandma's house or their next doctor visit. Books don't only build the foundation for literacy; they provide great advantages for your child's social and emotional development. Having familiar books around for different occasions can help reduce the anxiety of visiting new places.

Finding Books

Whether in a basket or on a shelf, a child's little library provides countless benefits. You may have heard the number of books at home is strongly linked to a child's academic achievements. Sometimes, however, it might not be easy to obtain books for a home library.

Here are some ideas to help:

1. Scout out books together at garage sales. Searching can be the reward itself! A child may also use allowance or gift money to buy a special book.
2. Watch for book giveaways in social media groups or on community calendars. Pay it forward when your child outgrows some of the titles you have at home.

Be sure to keep their favorite books, though; they may be the next generation's favorites too!

3. Get together with some friends and have a "book giveaway" party. Your child will appreciate having a book that was once a friend's.

4. Ask your family and friends for books. Whether the books are presents for a birthday, pre-kindergarten graduation, or just because, make sure friends and relatives

know you are building a home library for your child.

5. Attend summer reading events in your community. Many organizations encourage summertime reading and may give out free children's books.

Once you have a few books for your child's library, put them in a special place within their reach. Read these books aloud, explore them together, play with them, and treasure them!

