

• Together Time •



Read Together 20
Minutes Every Day™

I Spy

When you have read the same book over and over but your child continues to be interested, you can do more than read: play with the book! Use the illustrations in the book to play Eye-Spy and have an extended conversation about the objects you “spy.” You can increase the level of difficulty according to your child’s abilities by selecting objects by their color or group (e.g., animals, plants, inanimate objects, etc.).

Take turns while playing with the book, and invite more family members to participate for a richer interaction and vocabulary exploration. Remember, while reading is fundamental, the conversations you have around books will also provide your child with a rich lexicon that will be invaluable in school and in life.

Read, Play & Learn

Playing with books can be a lot of fun! When you purposefully explore a book, you can spend valuable minutes interacting and learning with your child. Here are some simple game ideas you can play together:

- Play Eye-Spy, giving increasingly more complex descriptions of the objects you are spying.



- Invite your child to say the lines in a book he or she has memorized, letting your little one become part of the story.
- Every once in a while, change the dialogue to something that doesn't make sense in the story. Ask why it doesn't fit the story (e.g., The Cat in the Hat).
- Set up a scavenger hunt at home with objects featured in the books you are reading together.
- Build an obstacle course with your child's favorite books and look for something on each one (color, illustration, word, etc.).
- Play trivia games with other family members.
- Recreate some scenarios using blocks or fun dough.
- Add music to some of the lines in the book and make a song about the story.
- Ask your child to jump every time you say a certain word used repeatedly in the book.

Through activities like these, your child will develop sound awareness, comprehension, memory, observation, and some motor skills. Beyond promoting your child's literacy skills, you are also nurturing their love for reading that will last a lifetime.