

• Together Time •



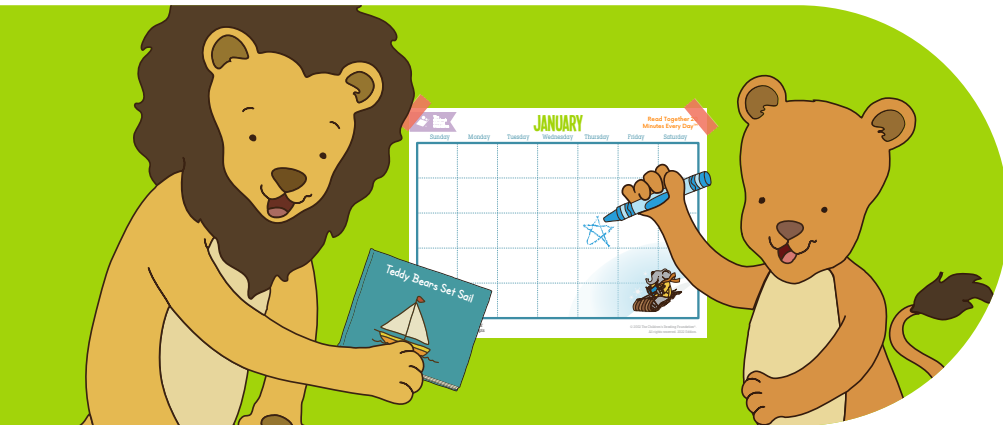
Read Together 20
Minutes Every Day™

Reading Tracker Calendar

Download and print the monthly reading trackers sent with the email that are on The Children's Reading Foundation website on our Resource Hub.

Fill in the dates for the month on your reading tracker and add the name of your child. Each day you read with your child, mark it on the calendar in a special way. If you read more than 20 minutes in a day, draw a star on that day. You deserve it!

If you have a preschooler or a school-age child at home, let them be in charge of the reading tracker calendar. If you have a younger child, fill it in together and describe what you are doing. For example, "We get a star today because we read together for half an hour!"



The Best 20 Minutes of Your Day!

No matter their age, when you spend 20 minutes every day reading and interacting around books, children are learning:

- To understand feelings and control their own behavior
- New ways of thinking, and how to interact with their environment
- To be curious and to remember special moments
- To appreciate the time spent together
- Tons of skills related to literacy that will be important in school

Children are also learning sounds, vocabulary, prereading, and multiple skills that will be reinforced day after day at home and at school. Plus, research shows the social and emotional benefits of reading aloud with children are remarkable. These include helping children curb problem behaviors such as aggression and hyperactivity to helping them cope during times of stress or anxiety.

Read with your child for 20 minutes every day this month and rest assured you are paving the road toward school readiness and healthy social and emotional development for your little one.

Far from the library? Don't worry! Any kind of text interesting to children will do the trick. Find a newspaper and read some happy news, or "walk" your child through the illustrations in a magazine and make up your own story. In the kitchen grab a recipe and pretend the ingredients are bugs for a spook-a-licious dinner.

Write a note and read it together! Understanding that different kinds of text have different intentions will be useful knowledge for your child in the future.

