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Reading

is the single most important way to help children get ready to read.

3 ●

teaches children how to think, imagine and express themselves.

Playing

5 ●

Singing

is a natural way to teach children about words.

2 ●

is reading put into action. Children learn important skills by writing and drawing.

Writing

4 ●

Talking

teaches children the richness of language.

1 ●



Talking

- ★ Narrate your day. Talk about what you are doing and seeing.
- ★ Ask questions and give your child lots of time to respond.
- ★ Repeat what your children say, but add new words to expand their vocabulary.

Singing

- ★ Try singing the alphabet song to a different tune.
- ★ Sing a song very slowly, then very fast, and then in a silly voice.
- ★ Make a simple shaker by filling a paper bag with rice and play it along with songs.

Reading

- ★ Go "undercover" and read after dark by flashlight.
- ★ Retell a story in a new way. Sing it, draw it, use simple puppets, etc.
- ★ Keep a word journal. Write down and talk about new words you read.

Playing

- ★ Play dress up and pretend to be your favorite book character.
- ★ Make your own toys out of empty boxes and other found items.
- ★ Make up nonsense words that sound like real words.



Writing

- ★ On a warm day paint letters on the sidewalk using water instead of paint.
- ★ Talk to your children about what they draw and write captions for their pictures.
- ★ Teach your child to use safety scissors to develop the fine motor skills needed for writing.