



# Pathways to Success

Helpful Strategies for Parents and Caregivers of Young Children

## Read. Talk. Explore.

## Interactive Reading with Children Ages 0-3 years

### 1. Talk about the pictures

Pick books with a lot of pictures you can talk about and describe. This will make it easier for a child to follow the story and participate. Look at the pictures and describe them instead of reading the text:

- “Look! A cat. Meow”
- “Brown puppy”
- “The girl is sleeping”
- “It’s Grandma”

### 2. Make it interactive

It’s time to get creative! How can you get a child involved in book reading? Here are some ideas:

- Talk about what the child is looking at or pointing to. Remember it is okay to spend a long time on certain pages and to skip others.
- Give the child opportunities to repeat what you’re saying or doing. Pause to let the child participate by having them repeat the last word in a repetitive phrase.
- Act out the pictures. For example, if you’re looking at a picture of a child jumping in a puddle, stand up and pretend to do it too! If the picture has a dog looking sad, pretend to cry. Have fun and get silly.
- Use objects/props. If your story involves making a sandwich, get some bread and make a sandwich. If your story has a bear sleeping, grab a teddy bear and pretend it is sleeping.

### 3. Repeat, repeat, repeat

Children with language learning difficulties need a lot of repetition. Repeating things allows more practice and builds confidence.

- Re-read the same books many times
- Repeat the same words you are reading
- Repeat any actions you may include