

At Home Reading Ideas

(compliments of Catapult Learning)

- Try to set aside at least one regular time each day for a story. Favorite times are before bed or right after dinner.
- Vary the reading materials. Comic strips, magazines and favorite nursery rhymes are all part of the world of reading.
- You can read a story night after night if your child wants to hear it. Children often enjoy knowing what's coming next in a story and reciting parts along with you.
- Use plenty of expression when reading to your child, and remember to read at a normal pace. Allow time for your child to bring mental "pictures" into his thoughts as you read.
- Stop during the reading to answer questions or talk about a character.
- "Ham it up" while reading. Use character voices and sound effects if they will add to your child's enjoyment of the book.
- Stop reading a book if it becomes clear that your child has lost interest. Go back to an old favorite instead.
- Read to your child, no matter how old he is. It's one of the best ways to help your child develop into a thinking, knowledgeable adult.

Choosing a Book With Your Child

(compliments of Catapult Learning)

- Help your child pick a book that he can read easily. Give it the FIVE FINGER TEST. Have your child read one page of the book. If he misses more than five words on that page, the book is too difficult.
- If your child likes the book, help him choose another by the same author or on the same topic.
- Encourage your child to try new topics.
- HAVE FUN!