

Active Reading

What does my preschooler learn when I read with him?

- New vocabulary
- About the world he lives in
- To use his imagination
- How print works: where to start reading a book, how to read the words on a page, etc.



What books should I read with my preschool child?

- Books with colorful pictures.
- Books that tell a story with words
- You can use books without words too, because these help the child to use her imagination in order to tell her own story!

How do I read a book to my preschool child?

- Have the child sit next to you or on your lap and hold the book themselves
- Before reading, you can look at the cover, turn some of the pages and look at the pictures.
- Read *interactively*. Ask your child questions about the story before you start reading, and while you're reading. Have her guess what she thinks is going to happen.
- Have your child relate the book to her own life. *"Have you ever seen that animal?" "Did you ever go on a field trip to a farm or a zoo?" "What's your favorite animal?" "Why is that your favorite animal?"*
- Have the child tell you the story, using her words and ideas. She can even act it out!
- Do activities after reading the book that are about the ideas in the book. Plan a field trip or go on a walk together.

What's normal for my preschooler?

- Asking lots of questions while reading.
- Telling her own stories about the pictures she sees in the books.
- Wanting to do it herself.

EXAMPLE BOOK: Barnyard Banter By Denise Fleming