

## Let's Read!

**O**ften, grown-ups are so busy doing their own things that they won't take time to read a book with me. I am too young to read by myself but I love to have you show me the pictures and tell me the stories. I like spending time with you and reading together is a good way to do that. Will you read with me?

### What I Want You to Know

When we read together, I feel close to you and it helps me learn language and reading skills. Reading together helps me learn my ABC's and 123's and all about the world we live in. Invite me to participate when we read. Ask me questions about what we're reading.



Let me point to the animals as you name them. Let me turn the pages. I love it when you get me involved.

## Here's How You Can Help Me

*When we read a book, it's like going on an adventure together.* Wouldn't it be fun if we read a book about birds and then went outside to look for all the birds we could see? We could even build a bird house or put out food for them.

*I love it when you use fun voices and exaggerated actions.* I know you might get tired of reading my favorite book over and over, but it helps me learn the words that go with the pictures. Sometimes you can invite me to tell the story in my own words.

It might be a good idea to *get me into a reading program* at the local library or take me there for story time. *Help me pick out books that are right for my*

*age and interests.* As I get older, introduce me to different kinds of books.

You could *make a little quiet place for me* that has a cozy chair and a bookcase full of great books. Make a few minutes before bedtime when we can sit and look at books and take turns reading to one another.

Help me read other things too, like cereal boxes, road signs, and billboards. You'll be helping me gain access to the world around me.

Remember, establishing a love of reading will help me become an eager learner. Someday I will be too big to sit in your lap, so let's *treasure this time.*

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture and County Governments Cooperating

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