

## Reading Tips Teachers Use:

- With very young children, use board books or cloth books and let your child hold the book.
- Point to the words on the page as you read.
- Let the child turn the pages!
- When reading with your child, pause while reading and ask your child to predict what will happen next in the story. Praise their ideas and then read on to see if they are correct.
- Ask your child if the story you're reading is like anything they've experienced - help them relate the characters and events to their own life.
- See if they can retell the story in their own words.
- Ask your child how they would change the story if they were the author.
- Try holding the book upside down and see if your child turns the book correctly.
- If you're reading a rhyming book, encourage your child to guess what the next rhyming word might be.
- Read all parts of the book - examine the cover, the pictures, the book jacket - all of the pieces add meaning to the experience.
- For young children, make all parts of your home a "reading lesson." Label things your child sees: door, bed, light, table, sofa... and help them associate words with objects.
- Start a home library so your favorite books may be enjoyed over and over. Since books can be expensive, shop at used book stores and library sales and school book sales. You might encourage your children to trade books with friends, and be sure to give books as gifts!
- Use the "five finger" rule to determine whether a book is too hard for your reader: Have your child read a page of the book aloud. Have him hold up one finger each time he encounters a word he doesn't know. If he holds up all five fingers before the end of the page, it is probably too hard for him to read alone - but it could still make an excellent book for you to read to him!
- Limit the amount of TV your child watches. Spend the extra time in family activities (including reading)!
- Follow a recipe together and combine reading with good taste!

- Read the newspaper together - using appropriate articles, of course.  
Try the sports page or movie reviews.

Try just one or two ideas and watch your time together as readers flourish!