

# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD TO LEARN TO READ?



## Reading aloud

Everything starts with reading aloud. Even if your child is learning to read by itself, you will be helping by reading aloud. Turn it into a regular routine. 15 minutes a day is quite sufficient. Create a peaceful atmosphere. Find a nice spot for reading aloud and make yourself and your child comfortable. Also talk to your child about the story but never turn it into a test. Asking questions like “what do you think happens next?” or “What would you do in this situation?” helps your child to follow the story. It’s all about making reading fun and exciting.



## Reading in different languages

By the way, you do not have to stick to German. Perhaps other languages are spoken in your family. Read to your child in your mother tongue or the language which you yourself speak best. There are also bilingual books which show the text in German and in another language beside it.

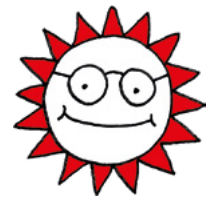
## Read together

Read together with your child. You can either read sections together at the same time or in turns. First you read a passage and then have your child read one. There are special books for this but you can also use any children’s book.



Make sure you praise your child even if he or she is still having great difficulties. Praise produces better results than criticism and admonitions.





# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD TO LEARN TO READ?



## Look for good children's books

Reading cannot be fun if the books are not good. But what makes a good book is something that only you and your child can decide together. A book is good if both you and your child enjoy reading it together. You can obtain suggestions for suitable books at a library or bookshop.



## Audio books and reading apps

Audio books can be a help too. Your child can read along loudly or quietly with the audio book. But make sure to sit there with your child and check that the text really is the same in the audio book and the book. Sometimes, the texts in audio books are changed slightly. That will only confuse your child.

There are also a wide range of reading apps for Tablets or Smartphones. But do not rely on technology alone. Even the best app is no substitute for reading together with you.

