

# TIPS TO HELP STRUGGLING READERS AT HOME

The most important thing to remember for your struggling reader is to have fun with learning language. Having fun with learning letters, letter sounds, and words can help to foster your child's confidence in their reading abilities.

Here are a few tips to help your struggling reader at home:

1) Pick appropriate books

Try to find books that are not too difficult for your child. Be gentle in correcting your child's mistakes to help build your reader's confidence.

2) Trace and say letters

Practice tracing the letters of the alphabet using different materials. This can include tracing materials on a baking sheet in rice, sprinkles, and whipped cream.

3) Play with puppets

Playing with puppets can be an inviting way to have children rhyme, use vocabulary, and make connections from stories to real life situations.

4) Play sound games

Practice sounding out words or blending sounds together to create words. If your child is learning letters, point out letters or objects during a ride in the car.

5) Read again and again  
Reading your child's favorite story again and again can help with word recognition.

6) Model reading

Children want to do things just like their role models. Be sure your child sees you reading!

7) Ask questions while reading

Ask open-ended questions about the story. Make predictions and talk about the characters to help your child relate to the text.

8) Point out print

Point out print during your daily routine whether the print is on the milk jug, toothpaste tube, or even in the car. The more exposure children have to words, the more the child will recognize them as they associate them with their everyday lives.

9) Talk and build vocabulary

Having interesting conversations can help build vocabulary, language skills, and knowledge about the world.

10) Read together everyday

Start a reading tradition and read together after supper or on a certain night of the week. Try finding special books for special occasions to create a fun reading experience.

Resources: [nea.org](http://nea.org), [readingrockets.org](http://readingrockets.org)