

# How to Make Reading Fun!

## Make Connections!

Making connections helps the story come alive! Help your children make connections between what you are reading in the book and what is happening in their lives. Talk with your children about things you have done together that may reflect things that happen in the book. Remember to make emotional connections, too. For example, a character may feel frustrated, sad, embarrassed, or happy—all emotions that your children will understand better after connecting with YOU!

## Paint a Picture!

As you read with your children, imagine the details like a movie in your head. Some books have lots of description, so remember to stop and ask your children how they see things. It's OKAY if they see things differently than you do—just enjoy your interaction. After reading and discussing the chapters, try getting crayons out and drawing a picture of how you each see what happened—then talk about the similarities and differences!

## Talk about It!

Reading and discussion keep the brain active! Together, laugh about funny parts of the story, ask questions about things that may be complicated or confusing, and predict what you think might happen next. Find out how your children connect with the characters by asking questions like, "What would you do if you were in that situation?" or, "What do you think the character will do in the next chapter?"

## Be Patient!

We ALL make mistakes, especially young readers. By being patient and understanding, you give your children time to process information and allow them to learn from their mistakes. By being patient, you are not only helping your children grow as readers, but helping them learn to be patient and compassionate, too!

## Make Reading Time Special & Fun!

Most of all, enjoy the time you spend reading with your children. You don't have to be an expert reader—and neither do your kids! Your children will truly treasure the special bonding time that you spend JUST with them!

