

Engaged Reading

What is engaged reading?

Giving your child uninterrupted time to immerse themselves in their books, giving them an opportunity to explore, make connections, and ask questions about their reading!¹

Why is engaged reading important?

Consistent, active reading engagement promotes reading comprehension and achievement.²³

Ways to Make Reading a Fun Part of Everyday Life

- ✓ **Enhance Your Routine.** Develop family reading routines and rituals. Find a time when you can read with your child every day... morning while you're brushing teeth, after school, before bed, at a sibling's sporting event, or at the park - anytime that fits into your day!
- ✓ **Choice Matters.** Read what interests your child and let them choose: their Book Trust book, recipes, game instructions, reread your child's favorites, try books that relate to your life.
- ✓ **Make Connections.** Making connections between books and real experiences is a wonderful way to keep your child engaged.
- ✓ **Tell Stories.** Encourage storytelling: have your child retell a story or event in their own words.
- ✓ **Have Fun.** Act out parts of the story with simple movements or change of voice. Change the words to match your life. Change the pet's name, or the main character's name. (For example, surprise your child by saying "Olivia, Olivia, what do you see?" when you read Eric Carle's *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*)

¹ John T. Guthrie, Allan Wigfield, and Yueguang Wei, "[Instructional Contexts for Engagement and Achievement in Reading](#)," in *Springer eBooks*, 2012, 601-34.

² Department of Education, "[Reading Engagement and Enjoyment](#)," Victoria State Government.

³ Scholastic Teachers, "[Engagement and Motivation](#)," in *Scholastic*.