

LITERACY TIPS

Reading together nurtures a love for reading. A child's interest in reading is an important predictor of later reading achievement.

Reading books introduces children to "rarer" words that they may not hear in everyday conversation. Knowing more words helps children become better readers.

Reading together gives children an understanding of how stories work and encourages their own imaginative thinking.

Read a book 3 times to help your child learn new vocabulary. Repetition helps children remember what new words mean.

Predictable books increase children's vocabulary by using repetitive language patterns and phrases. This helps children engage in "reading" before they actually learn to read. When you come to a predictable line, use your voice and hand motions to encourage your child to "read" along with you.

Nonfiction books are a great way to learn new words, as well as new information. They often have more complex vocabulary than other books.

PROGRAMS AT YOUR LIBRARY!

Join us for programs and events for children ages 0-5. We have weekly storytimes, playtimes, arts and crafts, and so much more!
To see what's happening at your local library for preschoolers, scan the QR code.



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Growing Readers is a free, self-paced literacy program that encourages a love of reading in children ages 0-5. It's easy to participate and the rewards are priceless!

Being a Growing Reader is not just about making sure your child is reading; it is also about capturing and growing the skills needed to be the best reader your child can be, creating a love of reading, and growing an even stronger connection between you and your child as you embark on this reading journey together!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- **Read to and with your child.** Reading with your child helps your child get ready to read and helps to strengthen the bond between you and your child.
- **Keep track of every time you read together** (optional). Each tracker contains 100 circles for your child to color in as you read books together. Each time you finish 100 books, turn the tracker in at your local Albany Public Library branch and your child can choose to add a leaf, butterfly, or bird to your branch's Growing Readers' tree with their name on it.
- **Come to the library!** As a member of Growing Readers, every two months you and your child can come pick up a new book to add to your at-home library. Also, as a member, your child can attend special Growing Readers programs that will help to continue growing their love of reading.

TRACK YOUR READING!

Fill in a circle for each book you read.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	18
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35
36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50

51	52	53	54	55
56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85
86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95
96	97	98	99	100

Tracking your reading is optional, but it can be a fun way to motivate your growing reader and show how much you've read together!