



# 6 TIPS TO READ TO YOUR CHILD



A resource created by the Educational Therapy Team  
(Department of Child Development)

## 1. Choosing a book

Using the "5 finger rule" to help you choose an appropriate book for your child. Get your child to open to a page of the book. As they read the page, hold up a finger for every word that they do not know. 0- 1 finger: the book is too easy. 2- 3 fingers: it is just right. 4-5 fingers: it is too hard and it is best read with a buddy.



## 2. Discuss about the book cover

Look at the book cover design and discuss what you can see. Look out for clues that you can see to help you both understand what the book is about.



## 3. Bring a book to life!

Read ALOUD with expressions and actions! This helps your child to pay close attention to the words on the page, and puts the emotion into the word. It will also help your child understand the story better.



## 4. Point to the words in the book while reading

Pointing to the words as you read helps your child to focus on the text. It is also a good reminder for children to read from left to right.



## 5. Have conversations about the book

Talking about the book together with your child signals that reading is important. You can have the conversation anywhere. A great way to start is by talking about a recent book that you and your child read together and how it made you feel.



## 6. Set a time for reading

Make reading with your child a part of your routine. It is a great way to bond with your child and to find out your child's interest(s). It also sets a strong example of the importance of literacy. If your child brings you a book, convey excitement and enthusiasm to let your child know this is one of your favourite ways to spend time together. Cuddle up and enjoy the story!

