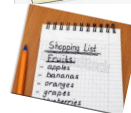


## What can I do to help my child learn to read?

- Let him/her see you reading.
- Share books together.
- Books are important but they are not the only way of learning to read - read things like mugs and T-shirts and words on TV.
- Point out the print that is all around us. Look at street signs, supermarket labels, posters. Find the letters that are in his/her name.
- Write things for her. Make scrapbooks from photos or old magazines. Show her what you've written on your shopping list. Write notes to her.
- Show her how to find things out by reading. Look for the names of TV programmes in the paper. Look at a recipe together when you are cooking.



## How do I share books with my child?

Even babies can enjoy playing with books. They won't tear them up if you show them how to hold them.

You and he/she choose the book together.

Before you begin to read, get a 'feel' for the book by looking at the cover and talking about it.

Let him/her hold the book and turn the pages.

Look together at the pictures. Look for little details. They help him/her to understand what the book is about.

Read the same book again and again if you both enjoy it. This helps him/her to remember the story. It helps him/her to recognise some of the words.

Let him/her 'read' the book to you by talking about each picture.

Read story books with catchy words or rhymes.

He/she will enjoy joining in.

Read books with exciting stories. He/she will want to find out what happens next.