

BES Tiger Tracks

Fun Activities for Learning to Read

Just a few minutes each day can make a wonderful difference in your child's reading skills. With only 15 minutes a day, a parent can use common materials around the home to make learning to read a much easier task.

Words on the Wall

Have a special wall in the home where words on cards can be displayed that the child is learning to read that week at school. From time to time, pick one word from the wall and challenge the child to say a sentence using the word. When the child has mastered the word, put it in a Word Bag labeled "Words I know".

Seek & Find

Beginning readers need to learn basic sight words like *I, am, are, do, want*, etc. Each week add about 5-10 of these words to the word wall. Have the child use a colored highlighter to find these words in common print found in the home~a newspaper, magazine, sales sheet, cereal box, food label, etc.

Fun Word Writing

When the child is having difficulty with a new word, take time for a "hands on" activity. Using a tray with a single layer of finger paint, shaving cream, or sand, have the child look at a card with the word, then write the word on the tray. Erase and repeat. Have the child say each letter as it is made, then pronounce the word and use it in a sentence when finished writing.

Story Detective

Keep a basket of books handy for shared reading. Before reading the story, have the child look at the pictures and tell you what the story is going to be about, and what might happen. Read together to find out.