

READING AT HOME:

10 TIPS FROM TEACHER STEPHIE

Simple ways to support your child's reading journey

1. BUILD STRONG PHONICS SKILLS

Help your child connect letters to sounds and blend them into words. Phonics gives kids the tools to sound out new words and become confident readers.

2. READ ALOUD EVERY DAY

Spend 10-15 minutes reading together. Choose books with short sentences and clear pictures.

3. POINT TO EACH WORD AS YOU READ

This helps your child match spoken words to written ones and learn how print works.

4. MAKE READING PART OF YOUR ROUTINE

Set a regular time for reading every day. Repetition builds strong reading habits.

5. USE YOUR FINGER OR A POINTER

Let your child track each word with a finger or fun pointer. It keeps them engaged and builds focus.

6. TALK ABOUT WHAT YOU READ

Ask simple questions like, "What happened first?" or "What do you think will happen next?"

7. LABEL THINGS AROUND THE HOUSE

Put simple word labels on everyday objects—like "door," "chair," or "sink"—to connect print with meaning.

8. PRACTICE SIGHT WORDS OFTEN

Some words (like *the*, *is*, *you*) can't be sounded out easily. Use flashcards, games, or writing to practice them.

9. PLAY RHYMING AND SOUND GAMES

Games like "What rhymes with cat?" or "What starts like ball?" build early reading skills through play.

10. CELEBRATE PROGRESS, NOT PERFECTION

Learning to read takes time. Praise effort and small wins to build confidence and a love for reading.

