

Inspire reading by filling your home with reading materials

One of the most effective ways to get your child to read is to surround her with a wide variety of reading material. In addition to filling your home with books, magazines and newspapers:

- Let your child own some books. It's great to check out books from the library. But owning a few books can foster a sense of pride about reading in your child. You can find great deals on used books at library fundraisers, yard sales and thrift stores.
- Organize reading materials in containers, such as baskets or magazine racks. These can fit in small spaces, such as next to beds, couches and tables. They can even go in the car.
- Create a special reading spot in your child's bedroom. Provide good lighting. At bedtime, say something like, "You're old enough to stay up 15 minutes longer to read. Or, you can turn off the light at the same time as always. It's up to you." Your child will probably choose to read.

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