

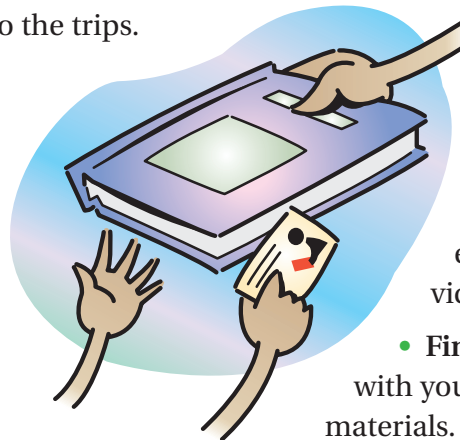
Reading for Success

Learn to love the library!

The local library is a great place to explore. It offers children a whole world of knowledge, fun and imagination. By taking advantage of all your local library has to offer, you will help your child become a lifelong reader. Here's how to make library learning an integral part of your child's reading success:

Before you go ...

- **Practice.** Tell your child, "We walk and use quiet voices so we don't disturb others who are reading." Have your child practice using a quiet voice and handling books with care.
- **Pick a good time to visit**—when you won't be rushed. Make it a habit to visit the library on a regular basis. Your child will look forward to the trips.
- **Give your child a bag** to bring to the library for carrying books. You can pick out a special bag or decorate one together.
- **Talk ahead of time** about how many books your child can take home. This will help you avoid power struggles at the library.



Puppet shows? Arts and crafts? Reading programs?

- **Get your child a library card.** Having one will make your child feel proud and excited to check out books.
- **Make library visits a social experience.** Schedule regular dates with another parent and child. Or let your child pick a friend to come along with you.
- **Look at all types of materials.** Most of the time, your child will check out printed books. But your child may also enjoy audio books, CDs or videos from the library.
- **Find a spot in the library** to sit with your child, after picking out some materials. Let your child look through them and make final selections.

While you're there ...

- **Befriend the librarian.** Introduce your child. Ask where to find children's books, magazines, videos and recordings of stories and songs. Encourage your child to name a few favorite topics and ask for her recommendations.
- **Explore library services.** Does your library have: Children's story hours?

Once you're home ...

- **Keep books in a special place.** Help your child find a special place to keep library books.
- **Make sure you return the books.** Talk to your child about the importance of returning books on time, so that other children can enjoy them, too. Libraries may also charge for overdue books.

