

# Reading for Success

## Motivate your reluctant reader

**R**eadng is an important skill that helps children do well in school. But what if your child isn't motivated to read? Don't force the issue. Reading should be fun—and it will be! Just make sure books are part of your family life. Let your child see you reading and talk about books you've enjoyed. And make stops at the library part of your routine.

### Schedule weekly library visits

- **Look for great Newbery and Caldecott** medal winners on your next trip to the library. Award-winning books can make even the most reluctant reader excited about reading. Ask the librarian for a list. She will be able to make recommendations based on your child's interests.
- **Let your child browse the shelves** and choose a variety of books—picture books, chapter books, how-to books, books of riddles or amazing facts, poetry, fiction, and audio books.
- **Get your child hooked.** Introduce your child to series books. Ask the librarian for help in selecting age- and level-appropriate titles.



### Make yours a 'reading house'

- **Set aside time for reading every day.** Create plenty of comfy nooks where everyone can settle down to read.
- **Take the TV out of the bedroom** and the kitchen. Replace it with a bookshelf or basket stocked with interesting reading material—books, magazines, comics, catalogs, brochures.
- **Share articles and comics** you enjoy and your child might find interesting.

- **Ask your child to read** the local events page of the newspaper with you to find activities your family will enjoy.
- **Start a subscription** to a children's magazine (in your child's name) related to your child's interests.
- **Play board games together** that involve reading.
- **Establish a family read-in-bed rule.** Push back bedtime by 20 or 30 minutes on a non-school night—for anyone who reads in bed!

### Build reading confidence

Children are expected to read aloud in school. If your child hasn't mastered this skill, a lack of confidence may be the cause of your child's reluctance to read. To practice reading aloud:

- **Ask your child to read a recipe** to you while you are cooking.
- **Encourage your child to read** to a younger sibling, a family pet or a favorite stuffed animal.
- **Take turns reading aloud** when you and your child read together.
- **Ask your child to read aloud** from a library book while you ride in the car.
- **Have your child read along** with an audio book.

