

Reading with your child

Reading with your child increases their language development. Start as early as you can—even babies enjoy books!

What is Dialogic Reading?

- The child helps tell the story
- The adult listens, questions, and supports the child
- The child is actively involved in the story
- Pictures are described, vocabulary is defined and expanded
- A way to make reading a fun conversation between adult and child



LEVEL 1 PROMPTS

For children who do not speak yet or use only single words

Examples of prompts:

■ *I see...the dog*

■ *Look...there's a*

■ *Wow, I like*

Adult: *I see a dog!*

Child: *(no response)*

Adult: *(takes child's hand and points to dog)*
We found it! Hello dog!

Child: *(smiles, waves to dog, or no response)*

Adult: *Bye bye dog! (goes to next page)*

Adult: *Look, there's a...*

Child: *Dog!*

Adult: *You're right! It's a big dog!*

Child: *Dog*



Tips for Success

- Use labels or sticky notes on each page to leave reminders for yourself about what to comment on or ask.
- Read each book more than once and try to let your child tell more of the story each time or point out new things.
- Ignore the words in the book and make up your own story based on the pictures.
- Make comments (I see a dog.) instead of always asking questions. (What's that?)
- Model action words (He is running. She is sliding.) and descriptors. (That's huge! Fast dog!)
- Use an excited voice and excited body—make this a fun time for you and your child! Be silly, use different voices, and be energetic.

MultiCare 
Mary Bridge
Children's

CHILDREN'S THERAPY

400 South 43rd Street
Renton, WA 98055