Why is reading (aloud) important

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Raising a confident reader is altogether a responsibility and a necessary experience you can give to your child. It is important to note that not all children progress through every stage of the reading development with ease or at the same pace as their peer group, and therefore might lack the motivation to read aloud or otherwise.

Enjoyment and motivation are two closely linked aspects when it comes to the benefits of reading. Children who read for pleasure, choose to read more and often, and learn better, which supports development on a personal level. This allows them to perform optimally on all levels (personally, academically, and socially) than those who only read upon instruction.

As a parent you are wondering:

How do I instill a love of reading in my child?

How do I encourage them to be motivated to read and choose a book for enjoyment?

How does my child benefit from my reading aloud with and to them?

- Reading aloud encourages an **interest in books** and allows you to form a **connection** with your child.
- Reading is essential for **early literacy development**, assists with **concentration** and in turn, helps them to **recall details** more easily and accurately.
- Reading can help both adults and children connect with others. It allows you to **explore different social contexts** and **understand diverse cultures.**
- Being a reader enhances your **imagination** and encourages **creative thinking**.
- Reading provides exposure to different environments and therefore introduces **new** and expands one's **vocabulary**.
- The more you read, the more words you will know which improves your **grammar**. This builds **oral language** skills and can improve **writing skills**.
- Reading can make you more **empathetic** as it helps you to wonder about and/or relate to a variety of **emotions and feelings** portrayed by several unique characters in books.

Remember, reading is fun!

- Take time to visit your local library with your child.
- Encourage your child to choose the book that they would like to read and let them retell the story in their own words and create voices for the different characters.
- Talk about the pictures in the book and ask questions about the story and characters.

You don’t always have to read to build a world of adventures with your child. Storytelling is just as much a learning opportunity and inspires the joy of reading.

Sources:

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