



“Science of Reading”

FOR AGES 0-5

Families can easily integrate the science of reading at home with children ages 0-5 through engaging and fun activities. Here are some practical strategies for different age groups.

0-2 Years

1. **Read Aloud:** Choose colorful, engaging board books. Use expressive voices and point to pictures to capture their attention.
2. **Sing Songs and Nursery Rhymes:** Use rhythm and repetition to develop phonemic awareness. Encourage clapping or actions to make it interactive.
3. **Talk and Describe:** Engage in conversations about everyday activities, describing what you see and do to build vocabulary.



2-3 Years

1. **Play with Sounds:** Use simple games to identify and manipulate sounds. For example, ask your child to find objects that start with the same sound as their name.
2. **Introduce Letters:** Use alphabet books and toys. Point out letters in everyday contexts, like signs or labels, and say their sounds.
3. **Encourage Storytelling:** Ask your child to tell you a story using pictures from a book or their imagination to build comprehension skills.



4-5 Years

1. **Interactive Reading:** Ask questions about the story while reading. Encourage your child to predict what will happen next or express their thoughts on the characters.
2. **Phonics Activities:** Engage in letter-sound games. Use flashcards or magnetic letters to match letters with pictures of objects that start with those sounds.
3. **Repetition:** Read favorite books multiple times. This builds fluency and helps children become more comfortable with the text.



General Tips

- **Create a Reading Routine:** Set aside specific times each day for reading and discussing books to make it a regular habit.
-
- **Use Diverse Materials:** Incorporate a variety of books, including fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, to expose children to different vocabulary and ideas.
-
- **Encourage Writing:** Provide materials like crayons, markers, and paper. Encourage scribbling and drawing, which are foundational for writing skills.
-
- **Play-Based Learning:** Incorporate literacy activities into play, like creating a “store” to practice writing lists or using puppets to act out stories.
-



Learn more about the “Science of Reading” on AFC’s blog!

Action for Children



614.224.0222

actionforchildren.org

78 Jefferson Ave, Columbus OH, 43215