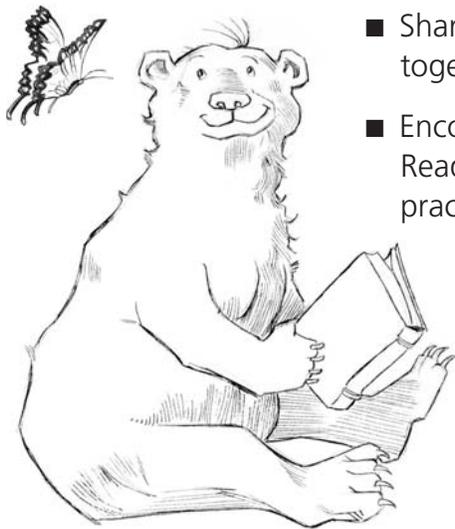


## PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: HELP YOUR CHILD ENJOY READING!

As a parent, your support and involvement are an important part of your child's reading success. Here are some simple suggestions that can help make reading a positive — and ***FUN*** — experience for your child.

- Help your child set realistic goals for reading. Sit down together and agree on a time that will be spent reading each week or a number of books that your child will try to read.
- Establish a regular time for reading in your home for all members of your family. Setting aside several times each week when everyone reads for 15 to 30 minutes shows your children that you value books and reading.



- Share stories with your children. Sing songs or make rhymes together.
  - Encourage your children to share their favorite stories with you. Reading aloud to an adult or telling a story allows the child to practice important skills of oral reading and comprehension.
  - Talk about books together. Tell your child about something you have read and let her tell you about what she is reading. Occasionally read something that your child has enjoyed.
  - Appreciate all the books your child selects, even the ones that look “too easy.” Like adults, children like to read some books that are fun and effortless to read.
- Read aloud to your child. Even when children are able to read for themselves, they still enjoy listening to books that are read aloud. If you read a chapter or two of a children's novel every day, you will also increase your children's listening skills.
  - When you are on long car trips, listen to audio books together or read aloud to your children. It's a great way to pass the time.
  - Bring your child to the library often. In addition to books and other materials, the library offers special programs for children throughout the year.