



Try It

Read With Me

Practice ways of reading with young toddlers that enlist their active involvement and expand their language.

Choose a book that you'd like to share with young toddlers. Look through the list of toddler engagement strategies below and choose three that you think would be particularly appropriate to use. Try out these strategies with one child before sharing the book with a group.

- Act out words or parts of the story together.
- Read with expression. Use different voices and sound effects.
- Pause to let toddlers repeat or fill in words and sound effects they know.
- Name pictures that toddlers point to, ask about, or seem interested in, and ask them to point to pictures or details that you name.
- Give toddlers a chance to repeat new words and phrases.
- Ask open-ended questions about the pictures, characters, or story events.
- Draw connections between pictures, words, and events in the books and children's experiences.
- Encourage and respond to toddlers' questions.
- Talk about characters' feelings.
- Ask toddlers what they think about the story, characters, or events, and build on their ideas.