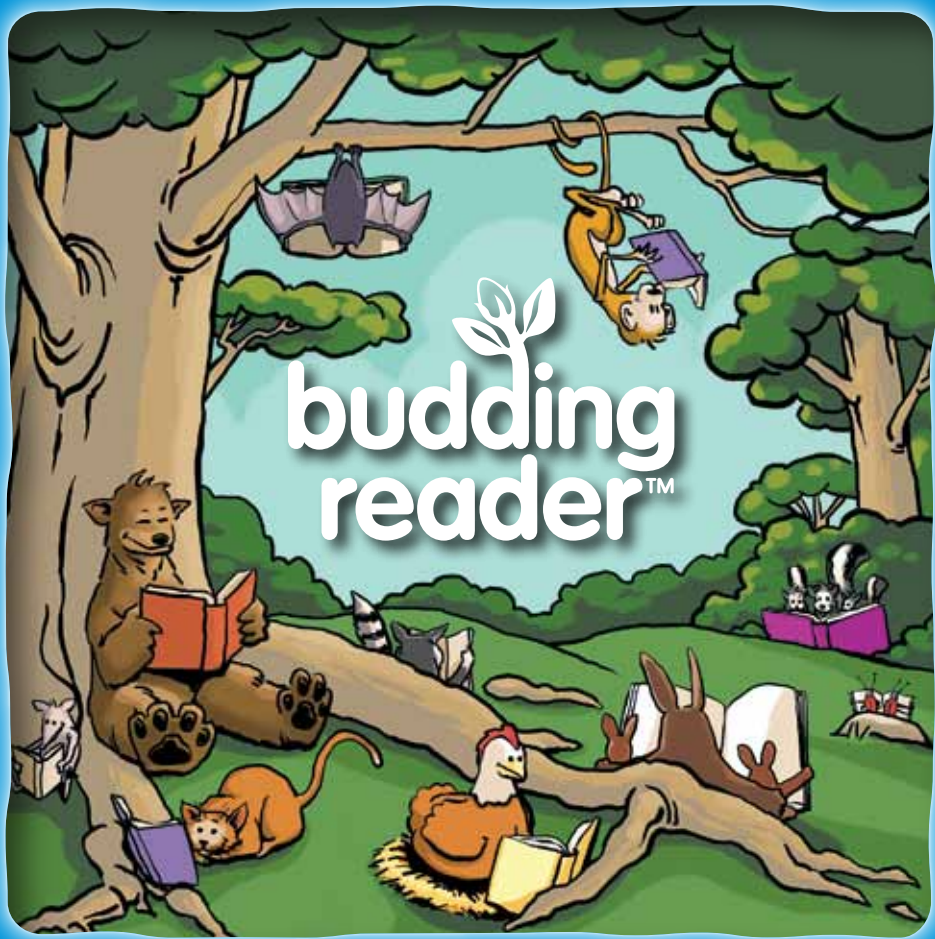


Ready? Get Set. Go!

A Brief Guide to Working with New Readers



Ready?

How do I know if you are ready
to learn to read?



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Harvard Graduate School of Education.



**Children who are ready
to learn to read
demonstrate six important
pre-reading skills.**



Children who are ready
to learn to read:

1. Notice printed language & know how to use books.

They are aware of printed words in their environment. They know how to hold a book right side up, to turn one page at a time and to read words from left to right.



Children who are ready
to learn to read:

2. Use many words.

They know the names of many things
and use a variety of common words.



Children who are ready
to learn to read:

3. Want to learn.

They are interested in books and
want to learn to read.



Children who are ready
to learn to read:

4. Know letters & sounds.

They know the names and primary sounds of most letters. They understand that letters represent unique sounds and recognize letters when they see them.



Children who are ready
to learn to read:

5. Can tell or retell a story.

They are able to tell stories and describe events. They can retell a story that they have heard.



Children who are ready
to learn to read:

6. Distinguish sounds within words.

They can name words that start with
the same sound, make rhymes and
identify the individual sounds within
words.



**To promote reading readiness,
here are ten things to do.**

**This is
really important!**



To promote reading readiness:

1. Read to your child every day.

This is the single most important thing to do. Reading expands vocabulary and general knowledge. It improves memory, listening and reading skills.



To promote reading readiness:

2. Ask questions before, during & after reading.

This improves comprehension.

Before reading, predict what will happen in a story. During reading, answer children's questions. After reading, ask open ended questions.



To promote reading readiness:

3. Tell stories to each other.

This increases verbal proficiency,
enhances communication skills and
improves concentration.



To promote reading readiness:

4. Sing songs & read rhymes.

This helps children hear and identify sounds that make up words.



To promote reading readiness:

5. Point out sounds in words.

This fosters an understanding of how sounds of spoken language are put together to form words. Ask questions like: "What three sounds do you hear in the word cat?"

(Answer: /c/ /a/ /t/)



To promote reading readiness:

6. Talk & listen.

Having conversations increases vocabulary and language skills and teaches children to think while they talk.



To promote reading readiness:

7. Visit the library.

This reinforces the importance of books and reading.



To promote reading readiness:

8. Let your child see you reading & writing.

When children see adults in their lives reading and writing, they want to learn to read and write, too.



To promote reading readiness:

**9. Encourage writing
(even scribbling).**

This reinforces the notion that written words represent spoken language.



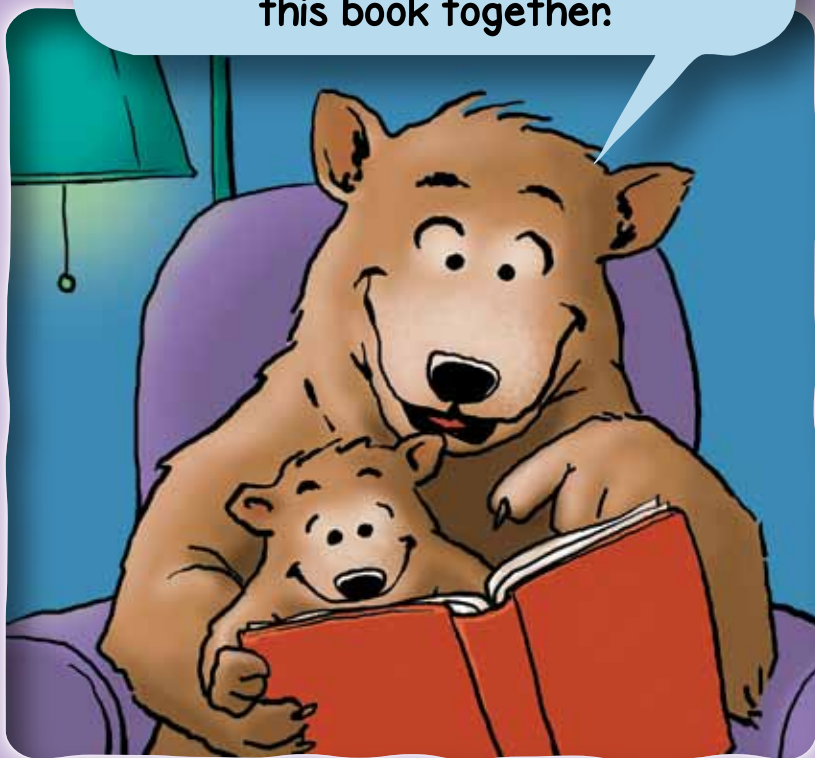
To promote reading readiness:

**10. Limit TV & encourage
active play.**

This develops mind and body.

Get Set

Let's start by looking at this book together.





**Before asking a child
to read a story to you,
follow these simple steps.**




Before asking a child
to read a story to you:

 **Look through the pages
and discuss what you see.**

Previewing is an important lifelong
skill for increasing reading
comprehension.



Before asking a child
to read a story to you:

 **Read the book to the child,
pointing to each word as
you say it.**

This takes some of the pressure off
of new readers and helps to ensure
a successful reading experience.



Before asking a child
to read a story to you:



Read together as partners.

The following partner reading
techniques make learning to read
easier and more fun for new readers.



Shared Reading:

Have your child read just one simple word every time it appears. You read the rest. Gradually, increase the number of words the child reads.



Echo Reading:

You read a page, then have the child read the same page to you.

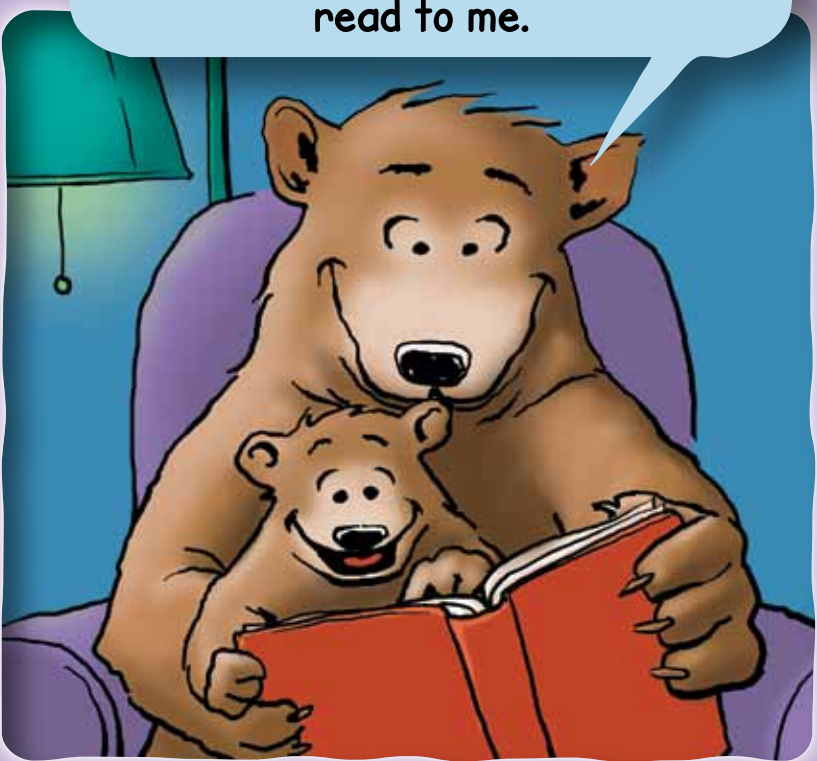


Choral Reading:

Both of you read aloud simultaneously.

Go!

Now, it's your turn to read to me.





**During the reading session,
praise reading attempts
and successes.**

**Learning to read is hard work and
children need encouragement.**



Keep in mind that many sight words must be memorized.

Sight words are short, simple words such as *was* and *said* which cannot be sounded out.



After the child has read to you, ask open ended questions to improve comprehension.



Ask questions such as:

Why

did Goldilocks go into the bear's cottage?



Ask questions such as:

Where

was the cottage?



Ask questions such as:

What

happened when the bears came home?



Ask questions such as:

Who

found Goldilocks in the cottage?



Ask questions such as:

How

do you think the baby bear felt?



**This guide is our gift to you
because we want to make
learning to read easier and
more fun for all children.**

Would you like to help?



Here's how to help:

Spread the word.

Tweet this. Like us on Facebook.

Or, simply, forward this guide
to your friends.



Here's how to help:

Support literacy.

Read with a child at school or at home. Support your local library. Contribute to literacy non-profits.



Here's how to help:

 **Buy learn-to-read books from us.**

Every time you buy from us, we donate a book to a child in need.


This way, the world gets a little bit better with every purchase.

budding reader™

Learn all five short vowel sounds.

Set 1

Cat and Rat




Short A

with 3 sound cards
and 100 words

by budding reader

Set 2

Wit and Kit




Short I

with 3 sound cards
and 100 words

by budding reader

Set 3

Bugs



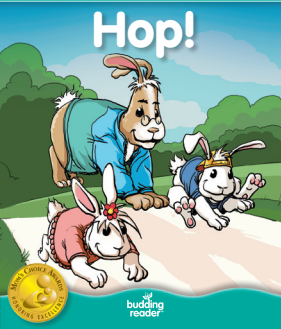
Short U

with 3 sound cards
and 100 words

by budding reader

Set 4

Hop!



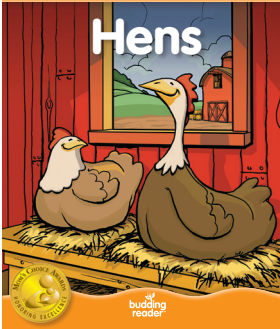
Short O

with 3 sound cards
and 100 words

by budding reader

Set 5

Hens



Short E

with 3 sound cards
and 100 words

by budding reader