



Do You Love Reading?

Did you know that only 20% of Americans who can read, do read? It's unfortunate that 80% of us are missing out on the joys reading can bring.

If you love reading, chances are you developed your love affair with reading as a child. Unfortunately, the reverse can also be true. What can you do to ensure your child develops the love of reading that leads to lifelong literacy?

Reading experts tell us that when children enjoy reading, they are more likely to do more of it, leading to improved ability. Once reading skills are mastered, children enjoy the activity that much more. Most importantly, children who fall in love with books eventually grow up to be adults who continue their love affair with reading, enhancing their quality of life.

Help Your Child Fall in Love With Reading

Becoming literate is a lifelong, intellectual process. This process typically begins during childhood, a time in development when family influence is the predominant

factor. In sum, lifelong literacy is a behavior or disposition typically acquired from the family a child grows up with. The reduced time available to read for pleasure during school hours these days makes it more important than ever that parents read to children at home.

Share the Love

Following these tips will help your child experience joy in reading rather than seeing it as a hurdle to complete an assignment or pass a test in school.

- Have reading material of high-interest to your child available in your home.
- Visit the library regularly and let your child choose the books he or she wants to check out.
- Make reading part of your daily family routine.
- Read aloud to your child daily.
- Talk about what you are reading.
- Listen to audio books on long rides in the car.
- Be a role model, making sure your child sees you reading for pleasure.

To learn more specific activities that foster the love of reading in children, visit JustTake20.org. Just Take 20 is a free resource offered by the Florida Department of Education.

Come read with us!

Visit JustTake20.org for fun family reading activities!

Just Take 20 is funded by the Florida Department of Education and managed by Just Read, Florida! and the Bureau of Family and Community Outreach.

