

# Quick Tips For Reading To Young Children Who Don't Like To Be Read To



1. Choose books with meaningful themes – if your child loves dinosaurs, choose dinosaur books...if your child loves trains, choose books about trains
2. Don't read every word on the page – instead, just talk about what's happening in the pictures, pointing out interesting details as you go
3. Don't force your child to sit on your lap when reading books – instead, sit face to face so your child can engage with you during this activity (it's also okay for you to sit on the floor and have your child stand in front of you)
4. Use an animated voice and make a variety of interesting sound effects – your goal is to become the most interesting thing in the room
5. Reduce distractions in the room by turning off the TV and placing other electronic devices (such as tablets and smartphones) out of sight
6. Keep a small basket of books in different rooms of the house; keep small books in the diaper bag; and keep a stack of small books in the car next to the car seat
7. Choose developmentally appropriate books – cloth or vinyl books for babies or kids who put everything in their mouth; board books for toddlers and preschoolers; books with paper pages should be given to children who know how to care for books without tearing the pages
8. Select interactive books that have large flaps or touch and feel pages - giving busy little hands something to do can increase your child's attention to the activity
9. Avoid asking too many questions when looking at books together – your child may dislike this high-pressure, quizzing type of interaction; the goal is to make story time enjoyable
10. Read to your child every day...even if he or she doesn't seem interested (this is how your child will learn that books are part of your daily routine)