

Parents & Family Members:

Every Child's First & Forever Teachers



Strategy #1 Echo Reading

What is Echo Reading?

- The parent reads a sentence to their child.
- The child 'echos', or re-reads, the same sentence out loud trying to sound like the parent did – same tone, same volume and same rhythm.

Why Echo Read with My Child?

- Practice is the key to reading success.
- When parents read just one sentence and have children read the sentence back right away, they are modeling good reading in small doses and children get to practice in short, successful spurts.
- Echo reading is a powerful way to increase your child's reading ability.

What do I need for Echo Reading with my child?

- A parent (or grandparent, guardian, an older brother or sister, or any loving relative) to lead the echo reading;
- A book or poem that the child can read easily.

How do I Echo Read?

Sit together so you can both see the sentence. Say:

1. I will read a sentence out loud.
2. You listen carefully to the words and how I read them with good expression. Follow the words with your finger as I read.
3. You read the sentence out loud back to me following the words with your finger. As you read, try to copy how I read it with expression.
4. Continue this practice for 5 to 10 minutes or until the child loses interest.

Tips for Parents

- If your child has trouble copying the sentence you read, it is okay to repeat the sentence and have them copy it several more times. Remember this is practice! If they have trouble copying too many sentences you may need to try with an easier book.
- You want this to be a happy experience so show excitement as they copy your reading. “Good job! Terrific! Great reading! Well done!”
- Point out exclamation marks, question marks, commas and periods and explain how they affect how you read.
- Find a special time in the day for echo reading. Make it a fun, special experience just between the two of you. Try to echo read several times a week.
- ***A treat at the end would probably be welcome!***