

12 Gattons Ways to Love Reading!

Love Reading and Sharing Stories as a Family

Use the Library

Get a library card and borrow new books. Find out about new authors and let us know all about them in school. Local book shops and libraries sometimes have author visits.



Story Telling

Show the children how to act out a story. Can they guess which story you are telling and join in with the words as you retell it? They can then have a go at acting out a story for everyone. They could get dressed up or use props. They could draw a picture of the main character or of an important part of the story.



Show them how fun reading is.

Read a story together somewhere cosy such as in a den or snuggled up under a duvet. Maybe you can have a hot chocolate.

Share your love of books with them.



Make Listening to Stories Fun!

Lucky Dip

Put 5 books into a pillow case and lucky dip the story you will be listening to together.



If your child loves a book, look for similar stories or books by the same author. The library or school can offer suggestions.

Encouraging Expressive Reading

Read using a range of funny voices. This brings the book to life and you can each take a part. (Adults can help with tricky words and use the same silly voice.)



Use Toys or Puppets to Bring Stories to Life.

Ask your child to draw the characters and move them around as you are reading. You can use teddies, sock puppets or toys to help.



Help Children to Learn the Common Words so they Don't Sound Out Every Word

Physical Learning

Make learning the harder to read and spell words a physical activity. Write their words on paper and stick them around the house. Children can run and get them and read them as they bring them back.

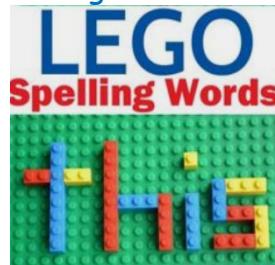
Put words on pots and throw rolled up socks / balls into them. They can tell you the word they are aiming for.



Spell words by putting a letter on each car. Read the word as they park.

Write the Words in Fun Ways

Write the words on the bath with special bath pens. Write the words on the ground in chalk. Write in huge letters on the ground or wall with water on a paintbrush. Or even write them in Lego.



Write the word in playdough or using string.



Reading Detectives

Have the harder to read and spell words on different pieces of paper when you are reading a story. Ask the children to say the word when they see it in the text. Start with one of their focus words and move on when they can spot it.



Always let the child hold the book if they are reading to you as this helps them to see themselves as a reader. It also makes it much easier for them to read the words and see the picture.

Play eye spy using the pictures or text:

I spy someone who looks brave.
I spy an animal in the story.
I spy the word **they**.

Children Reading to An Adult at Least 4 Times a Week

Pick a time when your child is not tired and when they are happy to read. Build up the time as their reading improves or read a page each to keep them interested. Make it as positive as possible with lots of praise.



Give them time to fix their errors. If they don't spot it bring their attention to one tricky word and read the sentence together. Does it make sense? Sound it out or guess the word using the meaning of the sentence, the picture or by sounding it out again.



Ask your child to fist bump you every time they see a full stop. If your child is a confident reader, encourage them to pause at the full stop.

You could do a high five or star jump for an exclamation mark!

