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pointing kids in the right direction anniewinston.com

HOW DO I GET MY CHILD EXCITED ABOUT READING?

GOLDEN TIME

The golden moments of quality time with your child where opportunities for reading and being together are celebrated and enjoyed.



REDEEMING the GOLDEN TIME

KEY POINTS TO UNDERSTAND

ENRICH your child's life. Water and fertilize them well. If you do this, your child will begin to develop their unique identity, and you will discover their **PASSIONS**, their special gifts, and their talents.

PAY ATTENTION to what fascinates your children and what their favorite things are. Keep a journal. Write down your observations. Favorite food, favorite friend, favorite time of day, favorite flower, favorite animal. What makes them laugh, cry, feel excited, interested and what they find is just **FUN!** Engage with them on their idea of fun. It could be as simple as laughing with your toddler

if they're playing with an empty water cup! You could take that a step further and put that empty water cup on your head, then turn on some music and move and groove. Watch them breakout with joy as they see you being 'crazy' and 'ridiculous'. Keep a basket of colorful picture books nearby and when you've tired yourself out (and your child too) find a comfy space, and read to them.

HELP YOUR CHILD TO ASSOCIATE READING WITH FUN AND JOY

BUILD on your child's passion, and make as many fun connections to it as you can. Be on the lookout for books that will stimulate and grow it. If you do this, your child's **PASSION FOR READING WILL EXPLODE!**

BROADEN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE EXPERIENCES

EXPOSE your child to a variety of activities. Slow down and enjoy the world from their perspective. Take a nature walk. Plant a seed and grow a plant. Avoid screen time. Research shows too much

of it causes problems in learning and development. Screen time also curbs the appetite for reading.

AFFIRM, APPRECIATE, AND ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD'S INTERESTS

VALIDATE your child's interests by being appreciative and encouraging of what those interests are even if they are very different from yours. Try your best to see things from your child's perspective. Build your child's knowledge about what he or she enjoys doing: *Did you know trains are made of steel?*

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO EXPRESS THEIR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS

PLAY WITH YOUR CHILD

Board games and card games are great ways to connect and learn and create that wonderful

GOLDEN TIME.

CHECKLIST FOR BUILDING READING PASSION

- | Yes | Will Do |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a cozy reading space with your child and read to your child at least 15 minutes a day. Establish a regular routine. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Put picture books in a basket along with a favorite stuffed animal. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Ask the “why,” “how,” and “what do you think” questions during your reading time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk about what you’re reading together and relate it to your child’s world. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit the library, check out books, and attend Story Time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Invite neighborhood children or your child’s friends over for your own Story Time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Have each child bring their favorite book! Make it a book party! Celebrate reading! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Read some ‘challenging’ high interest books with your child. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure your child observes you reading books, newspapers, signs, and magazines. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Talk to them about what’s going on in positive, encouraging ways. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Tell stories to your child and allow them to tell you stories. Help them understand that stories are everywhere and that they can tell stories to you about their day. Teach them what <i>story</i> is. Stories can be made up and stories can be real. All stories have a beginning, middle, and an end. All stories have characters with problems to overcome. The story begins when those characters navigate those challenges either successfully or not. Either way, there are life lessons to learn. Story example: The neighbor’s cat is stuck in a tree.
Characters - The neighbor, the cat, and the firemen.
Problem - The neighbor is upset because her cat is stuck in the tree.
Solution - The firemen come and rescue the cat. The neighbor is happy. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide your child with paper and crayons, pencils or markers for writing and drawing in an art corner. Display your child’s masterpieces. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide your child with a well-lit, quiet area with a table or flat surface for play and work. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure your child has a special place to read alone. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure your child understands that reading is connected to personal interests, passion and giftedness, including what they do at school, at home, or wherever they may go. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a library of great books for your child. Books with great stories and characters, books that inspire and teach. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage your child to tell you about their school day, and about what they’re learning. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Be sure to let them ‘teach’ you about what they know so they won’t see you as a ‘know it all.’ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Enter into conversation with your child about their day at school or other times away from you. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Know the names of your child’s closest friends. Doing this shows your child that you care, and a child that knows he is cared for and loved will be a blessing! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Let your child know that they are smart, capable, gifted, hardworking and that you expect them to achieve and work hard in school. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Be generous and reward them when they are successful. |

PASSIONATELY READING IS THE KEY TO YOUR CHILDREN’S FUTURE SUCCESS!



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**GIFT YOUR CHILDREN
WITH YOUR UNDIVIDED
ATTENTION OFTEN**

**PLAY WITH
YOUR CHILDREN**

**BROADEN YOUR CHILDREN'S
LIFE EXPERIENCES**

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**ENCOURAGE YOUR
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