



Make the most of reading aloud with your child

Studies still show that children who are read to are better readers than those who aren't. Be sure reading aloud together is a happy time for both you and your child. If you feel like it's a chore, then neither one of you will be motivated to read more in the future.

Here are some tips on bringing the books you read aloud to life:

- **See the story.** Try to see the story as you read it. If you're reading *Charlotte's Web*, imagine exactly how the words look when they're spelled out in Charlotte's web. Your voice can't help but convey the magic in the spider web.
- **Accentuate the first line.** The first line of any good story will grab the reader's attention. Your reading should make your child want to sit up and listen.

- **Use facial expressions.** Widen your eyes to show surprise. Squint a bit to show you're thinking.
- **End slowly.** If you read the last line very slowly, you'll give your child a great sense of satisfaction.

Source: Mem Fox, *Reading Magic*, 2001 (Harcourt, Inc., 525 B St., San Diego, CA 92101, 1-800-543-1918), ISBN: 0-15601-076-3, paperback, 176 pp., \$12.00