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## Reading

**Learning to read is one of the most important things your child can do. Find out about how kids learn to read and how you can help your child.**

### How children learn to read

Children learn to read in steps:

- They learn that letters make up words and that words mean something.
- They learn what words mean.
- They learn to put words together to make phrases and sentences.
- They start to understand the meaning of sentences and stories.



### Good readers know how to:

- Figure out the meaning(s) of words
- Sound words out
- Learn when words make sense and when they don't
- Separate words into syllables
- Understand the difference between vowels and consonants
- Find rhymes
- Remember the shapes and names of letters
- Learn lots of vocabulary
- Practice writing letters and words
- Make links between stories, pictures and situations. They can compare stories and pictures to real things that have happened to them.

### Good readers come from families who:

- Read together
- Use language a lot
- Support each other

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*You can find this page online at:*

<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/learning/reading/index.jsp>