

Benefits of Reading



Reading Time

Reading with a child is time spent together, time when the parent is focusing solely on them and on their emotional and developmental needs. It is a wonderful way for a parent to get to know their child and to nurture their individual personalities. By paying attention to what they want to read, parents can learn their child's likes and dislikes and create a personalised and exciting reading experience for them.

Emotional Health

Talking about feelings through the experiences of characters in stories is an excellent means of communicating with a child and can be a great way to talk about emotional health in a relaxed setting. Stories about family and culture also give children a sense of their place in the world and in their community.

Literacy Skills

Storytelling promotes literacy and language development and gets children ready to start reading, exposing them at an early age to a 'culture of stories' in the home.

Educational Benefits

In terms of academic achievement and excellence, one of the major benefits of reading to preschool children is a resulting higher aptitude for learning in general. Students who are engaged in their reading lives before school are more likely to do well in all spheres of formal education. Parents have the power to boost their child's learning potential by making books an important part of their everyday lives.



Speech Skills

Reading influences basic speech skills. At this young age, children are learning and assimilating critical language skills. By listening to a parent reading, the child is reinforcing the basic sounds that form the language we use every day. If young children are read to on a daily basis they will be more likely to express themselves through language and to relate to others. The interactions between the characters in the stories they read and the sustained one-on-one contact with their parents during story time will help the child gain valuable communication skills.

Logic

Reading will help a child grasp abstract concepts more easily and develop their logical thinking skills. Through exposure to patterned narratives, they will learn to recognise cause and effect. The more they read and are read to, the more the young child will learn to relate the scenarios and stories in books to what is happening in their own world.

Concentration

Reading in a structured daily session will also enhance a child's concentration and self-discipline. Younger children may initially get distracted during story time but as the routine continues, they will learn to focus and concentrate. With reading comprehension comes a stronger sense of self-discipline, a longer attention span and better memory retention.