

Reading

- Read to your child each night. Even older children can benefit from hearing you read.
- Let your child see you read.
- Talk to your child about what you are reading yourself, or what you are reading with them.
- Get them to tell you about what they are reading. Ask them questions about it. Try to get them to explain or give opinions on the book or character actions.
- Find books that they will be interested in and want to read.
- If a book is hard, you read it to them. If it is easy, get them to read it to you. If it is just right, read it together.
- Discuss the pictures and tricky words that they may not have encountered before.

Spelling

- For spelling, get them to write simple texts – help them sound out words or remind them of spelling rules
- Look for patterns in words – “Look, “MAT” has “at” in it, just like “CAT”. Even older students need to look for patterns and rules to apply to help spell more complicated words.
- Play games that use spelling – Scrabble and Hangman
- Help them proof read their writing. But don't write it for them!

Writing

- Get them writing simple everyday texts.
- Get them to talk about what they are going to write so that they can practice it before they put pen to paper
- Give them different ways to present their writing – using a computer, writing with coloured pencils, on nice paper or card.

Most important

- Make it fun and encourage them in whatever you do – don't make it stressful for you or your child.

Many of these tips are adapted from the Australian Literacy Educators Association website.

<http://www.alea.edu.au/publicresources/resources-for-parents-and-community>

Websites

- Reading activities for your child to use to improve their reading: app.readingeggs.com/login
- Reading aloud to your child – see <http://memfox.com/for-anyone-interested/for-anyone-interested-a-read-aloud-lesson/>
- Take your child to the library. The following site suggests some excellent books you might like to look at. <http://cbca.org.au/>.
- Another good blog for ideas to support your child's literacy is: <http://trevorcairney.blogspot.com.au/search/label/reading>