

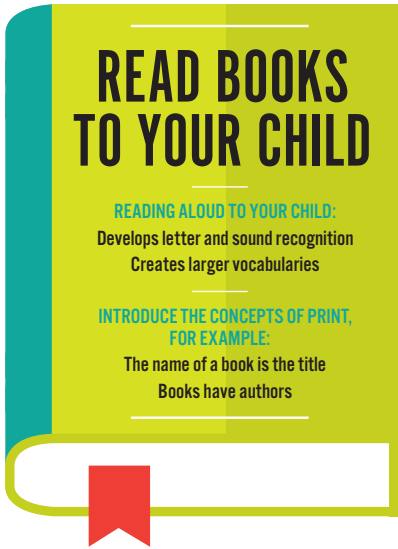
# TIP THE BALANCE TOWARDS READERS

BELOW ARE SOME TIPS PARENTS CAN USE TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN BECOME READERS!



**TALK TO YOUR BABY**

- Describe what your baby is doing – the sights and sounds around baby
- Encourage and participate in baby's cooing and babbling – this is their pre-language way of communicating!



**READ BOOKS TO YOUR CHILD**

**READING ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD:**  
Develops letter and sound recognition  
Creates larger vocabularies

**INTRODUCE THE CONCEPTS OF PRINT, FOR EXAMPLE:**  
The name of a book is the title  
Books have authors



**SING TO AND WITH YOUR CHILD**

Songs are a natural way to expand your child's vocabulary

Singing songs help children understand unfamiliar, new words. The meaning of any new words are gleaned from the context of the song



**TALK TO YOUR TODDLER AND BEYOND**

- Foster communication by giving our undivided attention
- Understand that the reason behind "why?" or "how?" is a genuine attempt to gain knowledge



**PROVIDE PRETEND PLAY FOR YOUR CHILD**

Label common items to cultivate 'sight word' reading  
Provide play props that foster print awareness



**PROVIDE PUZZLE PLAY FOR YOUR CHILD**

Have your child describe each puzzle piece and where they think it may go in the puzzle

Use 2-piece jigsaw pieces that pair item-to-word, again for 'sight word' reading