

# Tips and tricks: Finding time to read together



Family life can be busy, and finding time to share stories isn't always easy. The good news is that reading for fun doesn't have to mean setting aside a big chunk of time. Small moments can make a big difference.



## Make the most of everyday moments

Stories can fit into all sorts of places in your day. Try reading a few pages over breakfast, sharing a story on the bus, or listening to an audiobook in the car. You could even make up stories together on the way to school.

Take a book with you when you're out and about too. A picture book can be perfect for waiting at a GP appointment, taking a break in the park, or keeping handy while shopping.

At the end of the day, stories can help everyone slow down. Enjoy a book at bath time or share a cosy bedtime story before the lights go out – even if it's only for a few minutes.



## Connect reading to what your child loves

Go all in on your child's interests and bring reading into the things they already enjoy.

- Love helping in the kitchen? Read recipes together.
- Enjoy trips to the park? Take a comic or picture book to look at while you have a snack.
- Looking forward to seeing Grandma? Bring a favourite story for them to share together.

Reading doesn't have to happen in one particular place or with one particular person. Grandparents, older siblings and other favourite adults can all help children discover the joy of stories.



## Keep books close by

Making reading visible and easy to access can encourage children to pick up a book when the moment feels right.

Keep books where your child can see them, and pop a story, comic or magazine into your bag when you're heading out. Having something to read to hand means you can make the most of unexpected moments together.

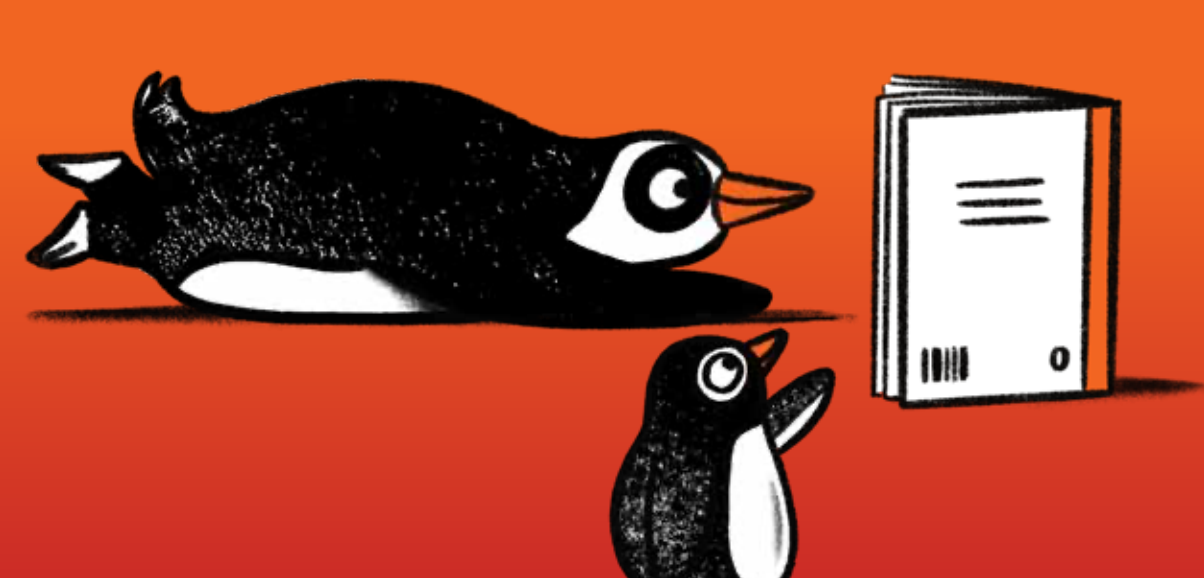


## Keep it fun and relaxed

Do what you can, when you can. Sharing stories should feel enjoyable, not like another task on the to-do list.

If your child loses interest, that's okay. Try again another day, at a different time, or with a different type of story. Every child is different, and finding what works for your family is all part of the adventure.

The most important thing is spending time together and for reading to play a positive and enjoyable part of everyday life. Every story shared counts.



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