

# ABC Conversations on: reading

## Welcome

Reading can be spontaneous and varied in length, whether it is on the bus, pointing at words in the shops, at the park or at home. Early reading helps to expand a child's vocabulary by opening up a new world of words, imagination and knowledge - important for healthy brain development, language comprehension, reading achievement and expressive language skills. Here are some other reasons for early reading.



theinstituteofwellbeing



@iwellbeing



www.tiow.org

## Attention

- Bedtime reading helps children feel they are secure, have your attention and are not alone
- Engage their attention with the use of colours and pictures
- Captivate the moment by adding funny voices or animation
- Find a comfy spot to be the reading zone

## Boost

- It's never too early to read stories, even if all they want to do is chew the book!
- Just 10 minutes a day helps to build important skills like concentration, capturing curiosity and sparks imagination
- Counting things and noticing shapes or colours can further mental stimulation

## Conversation

- Reading develops good language and communication skills - good for expressing themselves
- Ask questions – see if they are listening and understanding
- Reading together helps children feel valued, builds their confidence and helps with bonding
- Math skills can be developed through stories, songs, games and imaginative play