

Tips for Raising a Joyful, Independent Reader

1. Make Time to Read

Set aside 15 to 20 minutes a day for independent reading. Reading before bed is a great time, especially for older kids. While screen time before bed can spin kids up, reading can calm them down.



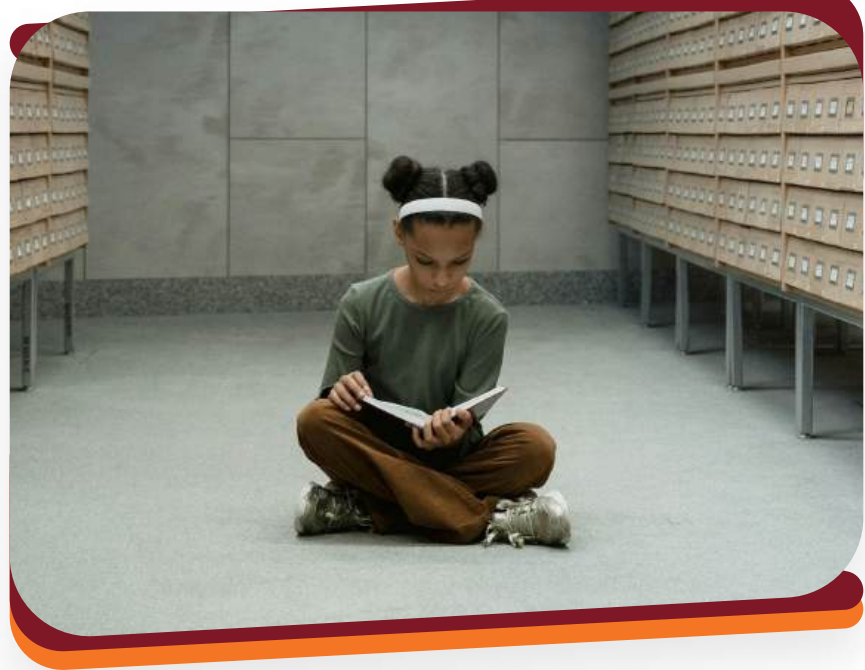
2. Lead by Example

Read when your kids are reading and demonstrate how much fun it can be. You could even read the same books as your kids and discuss them together.



3. Visit Your Local Library

Head over to your local library, and you can all choose a new book. Librarians can help you pick from a big selection of genres ranging from graphic novels to nonfiction to historical fiction. There will be something for everyone to enjoy.



4. Make a Cozy Corner

It can be easy to get distracted when trying to read. If you create a quiet and cozy reading area away from the TV, everyone will want to curl up there with their book.

5. Keep a Reading Log

A reading log is also helpful if your child is reading something you are unfamiliar with because you can use their log reflections to help start a conversation about their chosen book.

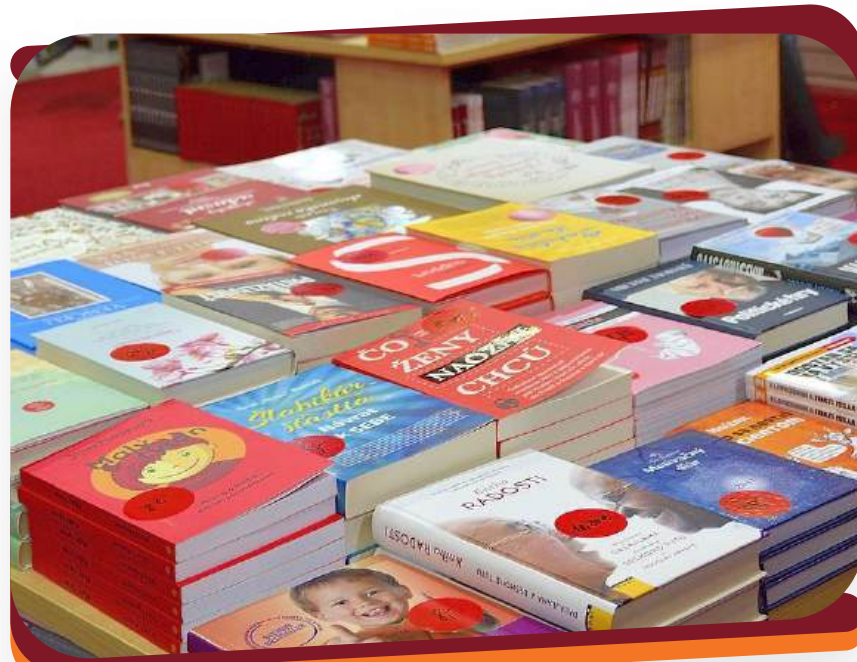


6. Host a Book Related Event

Hosting a book-related event requires more effort, but it can be very fun and meaningful. If your child and their friends have the same interests, you could host a monthly book club and watch the joy of their shared fun through a buddy read. You could facilitate a group discussion afterward.

7. Attend a Book Event

Check out events at your local library or independent bookstores. There are many free-to-attend seasonal events, author visits, or book festivals throughout the year. These can give your child something to look forward to and pique their interest in reading.



8. Read Aloud to Each Other

Taking turns reading aloud is a fantastic way to promote independent reading. While you are reading, you are modeling good reading practice. When you listen to your child read, you show them that reading is a worthwhile activity.

9. Encourage Wider Reading

Encourage your child to broaden their reading horizons by finding comparable authors or suggesting a book of a different genre that is centered on things they enjoy (history, animals, etc.).

