

# Be A Reading Role-Model

Does your child, grandchild or other little-person in your life love reading and think there is nothing finer than to escape into a book? Or perhaps they need to be coaxed into any sort of reading? Help your child become a more confident and joyful reader and turn that reluctant reader into a voracious book-fiend. By sharing your joy of reading you can encourage your child to pick up this healthy habit. Here are a few simple tips:

Be a role model. Most kids see their parents reading on screens all day long, and mom and dad don't read books or newspapers when the kids are around. Instead, get caught reading and talking about what you have read. Don't wait until after bedtime!

- Read aloud together and discuss the book and ask questions about it
- Have a weekly Screen-Free Day, where books and magazines replace computers and televisions. Make sure to have lots of enticing books and perhaps a few new magazines or comic books for SFD. Don't forget to turn off your own screens
- Make your local library a regular destination. For fun, try a different library than usual to see what's different. Make sure everybody gets to pick some materials to take home
- Tell your child what your favourite book was when you were their age. Read that book together if you can
- Make books a really big deal. Put your favourites on the fireplace mantle, use the pretty ones as centerpieces on the table
- Give gorgeous hardcovers or boxed sets as gifts and write a personal note inside the front cover. Slip a beautiful bookmark inside it. If you show that books are special, kids will think so too

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