

Add My Name

Primary Objectives

11a. Attends and engages

Why It's Important

Using your child's name in books and stories helps to sustain his attention. When you make your child feel personally connected to books, you heighten his interest in books and being read to.

Materials

Picture books

What You Do

1. Ask your child if he would like to read a book with you. Find a comfortable, quiet place where you can sit together. Sit next to your child or invite him to sit on your lap.
2. Describe what the book is about. Show him the front cover and talk about what is on the cover.
3. Read the book and insert his name where appropriate. When you say your child's name, gently squeeze him. *Let's have fun on the playground! Here's a truck you can take for a tow. But wait, pat the bunny before we go!*
4. Encourage him to point to pictures in the book and turn the pages.
5. Reread the book, inserting your child's name again.
6. Read for as long as your child is interested. Be attentive to cues that tell you he is ready for something different, such as looking away, crying, or moving out of your lap.
7. Look for other opportunities to add your child's name to songs, fingerplays, or poems. Add other familiar names such as Mommy, Daddy, or a sibling's or pet's name.