



Teach Your Child to Read™
for Children Ages 3-6

7 Key Things to Know About Teaching Your Child to Read



Note to Parents:

So you're thinking about teaching your child to read? Bravo! Clearly you're an involved parent who wants to take charge of your child's education. But perhaps you aren't quite sure *how* to teach your child to read, which is why I've put together these 7 pointers for parents.

Read on to put your mind at ease and find out why you are *exactly* the right person to teach your child to read.

1. Teaching your child to read before he or she goes to school will make your child a better student.

Studies show that early readers perform better in school. Perhaps that seems obvious, but when a child learns to read early, he or she develops confidence that begins to manifest in other areas of their lives as well—social, linguistic, and academic. From day one, early readers start school knowing they can achieve. Imagine what *that* does to a child's self-esteem!

2. YOU are the right person to teach your child to read.

Like many parents, you might not feel qualified to teach your child to read. Oh, but you are! After all, you already taught your child how to do things like talk, eat, and get dressed, right? By working with a reading program designed specifically for people who have never taught reading before, you will be amazed how easy it is to teach your child to read. *Please* don't rely on the school system to take care of this critical task. Learning to read is way too important to leave to an institution that might not be able to provide the resources your child needs.

3. You can start teaching your child to read as early as three or four years old.

Many parents wonder if they are ‘pushing’ their children by teaching them to read at such a tender age, which is a valid concern. While all children are different, it’s okay to introduce the concepts as early as age three or four—as long as you are using a gentle, nurturing approach that involves one-on-one time with your child. (Please don’t plant your child alone in front of a screen!) Limit the time you spend to five minutes a day, and you will be surprised how eager your small pupil is to learn.

4. Teaching your child to read gives you quality time with your child.

Have you ever reached the end of your day, only to realize you have not had a moment to spend with your child? Today’s families are busy, and a structured reading program gives you a scheduled activity to look forward to on a regular basis. Your child will always treasure the time you spend together in these early years.

5. **You will have the greatest reading success if you start with phonics.**

English is a phonetic language, but many schools are no longer using a systematic, phonics-based approach. A phonics-based program teaches reading based on the sounds of individual letters and combinations of letters, thereby giving children the 'code' to the English language. Once children understand the code, most will learn to read pretty easily.

6. **Teaching your child to read only takes 5 minutes a day.**

Hard to believe, isn't it? But phonics is such a systematic way of teaching reading that it can actually be broken down into small segments. By spending only five minutes a day with your child, you will see progress in just a few short weeks. Plus, you will always leave your child wanting more, which will make him or her excited to sit down with you each time.

7. The easiest way to teach your child to read using phonics is with a course that includes an audio component.

You'd be surprised how difficult it is for a seasoned reader (that's you!) to identify the exact pronunciation of each sound in a word. Make sure you use a program that has an audio component to demonstrate how to pronounce the sounds of each letter and the phonetic blends.

Are you ready to get started?

Now that you've gotten an overview of your role in teaching your child to read, you might be ready to review a reading program that works for you and your family.

Teach Your Child to Read™ is a gentle, nurturing program designed for parents to use, even if they've never taught anyone to read. All you need is a computer, laptop, or tablet—and five minutes each day—and you will be amazed at how quickly your child gains confidence in this most important skill. Start your **free trial** today. You'll be glad you did—and so will your child!



About the Author



Mary Follin is the author of *Ethyr*, a Moonbeam Children's Book Award winner. She also writes an advice column—along with Erika Guerrero—in Fredericksburg Parent & Family.

Her column, ASK MOM, won a 2021 Parenting Media Silver Award. She is the founder/developer of **Teach Your Child to Read™**, an online, phonics-based program for teaching children ages 3-6 to read.

To find out more about the program and start your free trial, visit www.teachyourchildtoread.com.

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