

WHAT DO ALL PARENTS NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR CHILD GOES TO SCHOOL?

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By paul mackie

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books for children do more than just entertain

The Importance of Reading to Children Books for children are a great way to spend quality time and form a bond with your child. Reading to your children is not only fun and exciting but educational for the child; this has long been well known in the field of child development.

One of the best ways to help a child "learn how to learn" is to read to them. Not only is this a quality time activity, but it helps the child "read to learn", to listen, get actively involved in the story and increases their self-esteem. Notice I said, "read to learn", not "learn to read". If you follow the suggestions below, your child will know how to read, without being taught .

How can "learning to learn" be achieved? Before I answer this question let me give you a few tips on reading to your child:

- read to your child every day
- read books with pictures, repetitive big words and short sentences
- when a child can say a word show them the written word
- start with naming words (nouns)
- then name verbs (action words) and act them out
- label the items in your house, write the names in big (at least 2 inch) letters
- always use large print text as a child's visual pathways are not fully formed in the early years
- play games with words, pictures and rhyming sounds

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- stop and ask "what do you think will happen next?"
- run you finger under text – left to right, top to bottom, front to back
- start with alphabet recognition
- sound out the different sounds for each letter
- sound out words

What is the answer to help a child "learn how to learn"? Do what child development experts suggest, and read to your child today. Reading is the bond between yourself and your child and an investment

in their future! The main key to any storybook is that it should be a sensory, play-based activity and above all be fun.

Storybooks are an excellent resource for the parent that wants their child to excel and receive the sensory input that is necessary in the early years between birth and seven years of age.

The thing that all parents need to know, before your child goes to school, is to provide books for children, books which provide activities to feed the seven senses; Storybooks That Teach provide those activities. See how the concepts of books for children and early Child Development have been incorporated into a unique series of products by visiting -

<http://www.storybooksthatteach.com>

Paul Mackie is a licensed Early Childhood and Special Needs Educator.

<http://www.storybooksthatteach.com>

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The Dreaded Picture Day

By Jon Blake

It is but one of them days which most little school children dread, that is picture day. The parents think of such a day as being a monumental time, as they use it as a means of recording a child's youthful career. It is basically the only way of preserving school days for years to come.

So, why do parents seem to ensure the pictures which are taken turn out to look more like something that they want put on the walls and to have sent out to every family member? I would say there are certain steps which can ensure your children's photos will turn out the very best.

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The first thing that is imperative is to really understand what background color can really make a good photo. It is the case that parents get to choose a background in most cases. When from the 70's through to the 80's the blue background was the answer for everyone but now there is a choice. Please keep in mind that the colors of clothing can make all the difference as to what is a suitable background color.

So what you have to do is consider what color your child looks best in, or even what they are willing to wear. If they like dark blues, then a pale blue background will offer the best results.

Hair can be the reason that some images just do not work out properly at all. Give your child a comb when they are going away to school, and tell them to use it before they get their photo taking. A scruffy hair cut can really make the difference between a presentable photo and one that is not. And also do not forget to have your child do a lovely smile. This can really make the difference between a great photo and one that is OK.

Good luck parents, and I hope that everything goes according to plan!

Jon is the editor of a top

<http://www.educationalclub.com>

website, and he also runs a site about

<http://www.diy-professional.com>

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