

How to Share Books with your 4 Year Old

- * Even young children enjoy books and learn from sharing books with you.
- * Sharing books with young children can help them learn to talk better.
- * Sharing books with young children can help them get ready to listen and learn in school.
- * Set aside 20 to 30 minutes with the TV off for sharing books as part of a regular bedtime routine.
- * Regular bedtime routines started when children are young help future struggles at bedtime.
- * Teaching young children how to fall asleep alone by putting them in bed awake helps prevent future night wakings.

4 Year Olds Can:

- * Tell you which books they want to share with you.
- * Pretend to read a favorite book aloud to you.
- * Tell you how a story is like things they have seen or done.
- * Ask you questions about books you are enjoying together.
- * “Correct” you if you skip a word or page in a favorite book.
- * Tell you the story in a favorite book in their own words.

You Can:

- * Find a quiet, comfortable place for book sharing.
- * Ask your child to tell you about the pictures and the story.
- * Respond with enthusiasm to your child’s questions and comments.
- * Ask your child to show you all the things in a picture that are alike in some way. You can say: “*Can you find all the blue things?*” or “*Show me all the things that can fly.*”
- * Point out colors, shapes, numbers and letters in their books.
- * Take your child to your local public library to borrow books or to enjoy *Story Time*.

