

A 6 by 6 early literacy skill

Have Fun with Books



6 by **6**

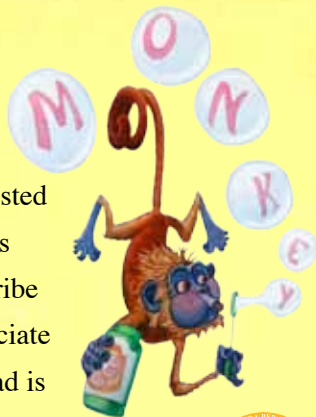
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READY TO READ

Six skills by six years

Have Fun with Books

Kids just want to have FUN and if we want them to learn to read, we need to make books and reading fun. Children who enjoy books and are interested in them will naturally want to learn to read! Educators and researchers use the term *print motivation* to describe this area of early literacy. The fact is, if children associate reading with negative feelings, their motivation to read is diminished. So find the right time when you and your children are in the mood and enjoy reading . . . together.



Children who like to be read to are more likely to become good readers. So . . .

■ **Get a free library card and visit the library regularly.** Let children help you select books. Find out where the library keeps easy information books, including alphabet and number books.

★ **Have pretend reading sessions.** Get picture books with little or no text and ask children to read to you.

▼ **Take books wherever you go:** doctor's office, in the car, at the grocery store, in the park.

▼ Watch children as they play and let them see you writing about them and what they're doing. **Create a book** they can read about themselves and include a photograph of them.

● Check out books which encourage **searching for objects in the illustrations.**

■ **Involve children in reading as much as possible.** Have them say a repeated phrase with you throughout a book as you read aloud. Being an active participant makes it more fun!

★ **Give books as gifts.**

Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.