

## What kinds of things should I read to my child?

**For beginning readers:** For children who are just beginning to learn about reading, alphabet books can help them to learn the names and sounds of the letters. Also, books with a lot of rhyming words, like many of the Dr. Seuss books, can help children learn to notice the sounds in spoken words. This will help them as they learn about how the letters in printed words are connected to the sounds in spoken words. Beginning readers will also enjoy and benefit from the kinds of books appropriate for all readers (see below).



**For all readers:** It is useful to provide children with access to a wide variety of written materials. Magazines, newspapers, books about history and science, poetry, song books and internet resources all have the potential to capture children's interests and to help them to develop both a fascination with reading and the background knowledge upon which comprehension depends.

Finding books that are a good match for your child's interests can sometimes be a challenge. Librarians are generally very happy to help parents select books. We have also posted some links on our website ([www.albany.edu/crsc/parents](http://www.albany.edu/crsc/parents)) that can be helpful in choosing reading materials.



As you read books (or other materials) to your child, be sure to engage her in conversations about what's happening in the book. Afterwards, leave the books you have read available for her to look at. Using the pictures, she is likely to be able to remind herself of what the book was about and perhaps some of the things she learned in the book.

**Books, Books Everywhere!** Having reading materials available wherever your child spends time will give her many opportunities to enjoy them.