



## How to Raise a Reader

### Lead by Example

Let them see you reading - for you, not for them. If you're not prioritising relaxing with a good read, it feels like they're being given homework. This can be hard if you read eBooks so you might need to be clearer in announcing you're reading rather than scrolling.

### Put them in charge

Letting them choose what to read and showing an interest in their choices is crucial. Reading a graphic novel or comic book, listening to a story or even reading a book you think might be for younger kids are all still sparking their imaginations. All stories count!

### No test zone

Chat to them about the stories they're reading in general rather than trying to test learning, talk about what they liked, do they think you'd like it

### For little ones

Help them build their skills by talking about the pictures as well as the story.  
Ask what they think is going to happen next before turning the page.  
Play with them using their soft toys to act out parts of their favourite stories.  
Don't feel you have to leave books for bedtime - it works to calm some children, but not all.  
The best time for a book is when you and your child are relaxed and ready to read.

### Reading becomes a habit when it feels like a choice and not a chore.

Join your local East Lothian Library with your child today. It's free to join and there are no late fees if you've taken a bit longer to bring it back than you originally planned.