

How to do Paired Reading With Your Child

1. Using books your child's teacher has suggested, sit next to your child and hold the book between you so you both can see it easily.
2. Say, "Let's read aloud together for a little while. Whenever you want to read alone, just tap the back of my hand like this (demonstrate for your child) and I will stop reading. If you come to a word you don't know, I will tell you the word and begin reading with you again."
3. You may want to establish a starting signal, like saying, "Ready, Set, Go," with your child so you start together. Read along with the child, pushing the pace just slightly faster than your child can read by himself in order to encourage a fluent pace. Read with good expression to provide a good reading model for your child.
4. When your child taps the back of your hand, stop reading aloud and instead follow along as the student continues with oral reading. Be sure to occasionally praise your child's reading (e.g., "That was a hard word. You did a nice job sounding it out.")
5. If, while reading alone, the child either makes a reading error or stops for longer than 3 seconds, point to the error-word and say it. Then tell your child to say the word. When he/she says the word correctly, begin reading aloud again together with your child. (Alternative instruction: When your child makes an error, say the word. Have your child say the word, and then have him or her go back to the beginning of the sentence where the error was made. Have your child read the entire sentence that had the error. Then continue reading along with him or her.)
6. Read along with your child until he or she taps the back of your hand to signal that he or she wants to read alone.
7. Every 2 – 3 minutes, stop reading and ask your child to retell what he has read, or ask a couple of comprehension questions related to the reading. It is very important that your child can still understand what is read. Please consult your child's teacher if comprehension seems to be a problem.

Do Paired Reading with your child at least 10 minutes every day, and watch your child's reading improve!!