IMPORTANCE OF READING

Reading is the single most important thing you can do to help prepare your child for school! Reading with your child builds their vocabulary, imagination and creativity while exposing them to a variety of topics. It also sets children up to succeed academically, develops a love of learning, enhances their concentration, develops empathy, and nurtures the parent-child bond.

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United Way of Goodhue, Wabasha & Pierce Counties





TIPS FOR READING WITH YOUR LITTLE ONES:

Read often, snuggle while you read, store books in easily accessible area for children, read books multiple times, point out letters, make letter sounds together, ask questions, have your child turn the pages, ask child to predict what happens next, make up your own stories, and have child read to you.

HELPFUL EARLY CHILDHOOD ONLINE RESOURCES

- Child Care Aware
 childcareawaremn.org
- Get Ready to Read getreadytoread.org
- Help Me Grow helpmegrowmn.org
- Zero to Three zerotothree.org
- MN Department of Education education.mn.gov
- MN Early Learning Information education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/k
- Wisconsin Department of Education **dpi.wi.gov**
- Parenting Counts parentingcounts.org
- Reading Rockets
 readingrockets.org
- Mom Enough
 momenough.com
- National Fatherhood Initiative fatherhood.org
- Vroom
 vroom.org

12 SKILLS For kindergarten readiness

(Every Hand Joined, Early Childhood Network, 2019)

- Show self-control (i.e. able to wait, move from one activity to another, or calm self)
- Complete two-step instructions (i.e. – "First put on your pajamas, and then brush your teeth.")
- 3. Ask and answer basic questions.
- 4. Use the restroom independently, dress self, and keep track of belongings.
- 5. Ask for help when struggling with something.
- 6. Respect and follow adult directions.
- 7. Share and take turns.
- Participate in group activities (i.e. preschool, dance, story time, sports, etc.)
- Know how to "use" books

 (i.e. hold book correctly, turn pages, scans left-to-right, identify the cover, etc.)
- 10. Use crayons, markers, and scissors.
- 11. Recognize own name when seen or heard.
- 12. Recognize some letters, numbers, shapes, and colors.

Visit the United Way website for a list of local early childhood programs/preschools/centers and other helpful information! **uw-gwp.org**





