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Simple Ideas to Help Your Child Learn Sight Words



Sight words are words that often do not follow the traditional phonics rules. Therefore, a reader cannot "sound out" the word or use word-attack skills to read it. Since these words can't be sounded out they need to be learned by sight. These words appear frequently in all books. It is important for your child to learn these words and become automatic in identifying them. Having your child practice their sight words will provide them with an excellent base for reading.

Here are some fun ways to expose your child to sight words:

- 1. Cut out the provided sight words to create flashcards for your child to review.
- 2. If you carry a purse or a bag, place a set of the words inside of it. When you have to wait in line at the grocery store, bank, sitting in a restaurant, etc. take out the cards and review them.
- 3. Write the words your child needs to learn on sticky notes. Stick them anywhere your child goes! You can stick them on the wall near their bed to review before going to sleep and when waking up, in the bathroom to review while brushing their teeth, on the wall in the kitchen to review before dinner, etc.
- 4. Take words your child is having difficulty with and place them on the car seat back in front of your child. As you are driving, your child will be staring right at the words! You can ask him/her to read them to you.
- 5. Lay the words flat on the floor in a little path. Have your child read each word as they hop or step on them to follow the path. If you have stairs at home, put a word on each step and have your child say each words as they climb the stairs.
- 6. Make two sets of word cards and play "Memory" or "Go Fish" with them.
- 7. Lay 3-5 cards facing up so that your child can see them. Play rhyming games such as, "I'm thinking of a word that rhymes with me, but it begins with /w/" (we)
- 8. Play, "What's Missing." Lay 3-4 words on the table and have your child read the words and then close his/her eyes. Remove one of the words. Ask your child to open their eyes and identify the word that was missing. Then take a turn closing your eyes!
- 9. Download Sight Word Apps on your I-phone or I-pad!
- 10. Google "Sight Word Games" and let your child practice their sight words on the computer!



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