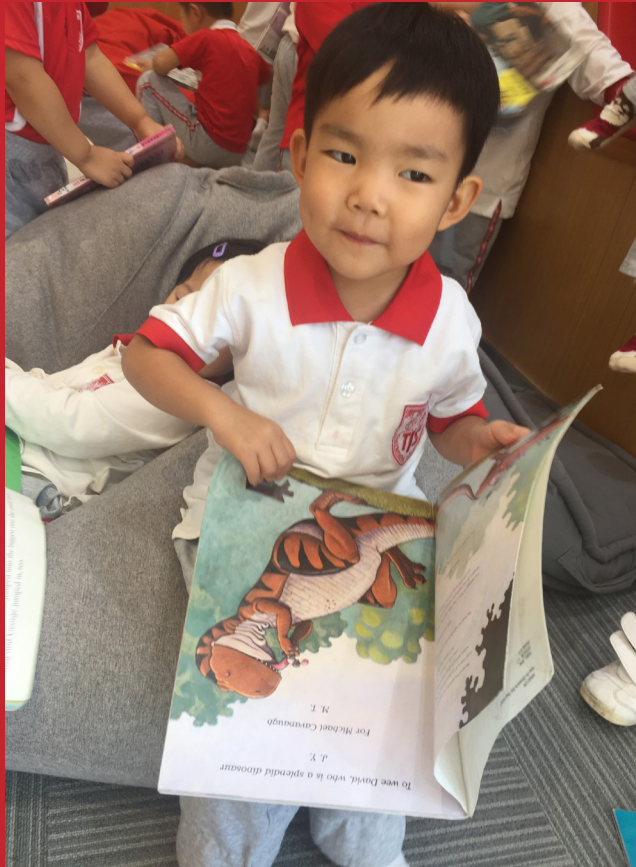


So your child is showing interest in reading books on their own?

Reading to your child every day is one of the most important things to do at home to support literacy and language development. (1)



References:

1) Read Aloud www.readaloud.org/why

Look for other pamphlets in this series for more at-home tips to encourage your child to appreciate reading: **Learning to Read** and **Reading to Learn**.



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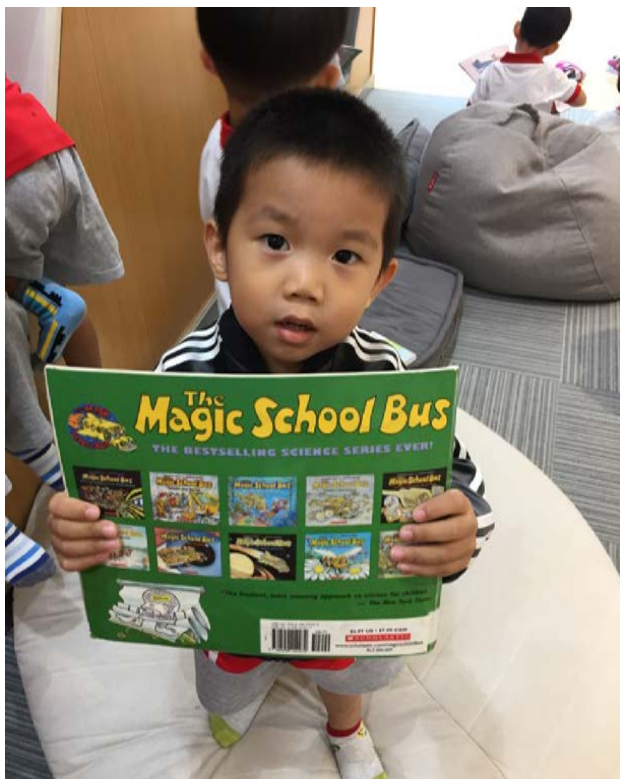
Reading At Home With Your Kindergarten-Aged Child:

Learning to Read



How to know if your child is ready to Learn to Read:

- They show an interest in reading.
- They correctly hold the book and turn the pages.
- They choose to “read” familiar books by retelling the story.
- They ask you to read (or re-read) specific words or sentences from the book.
- They want to read and write their name on their own.



How to support and encourage your child as they are Learning to Read:

- Keep reading to your child every day. Even as they begin reading more independently, it is important that they hear you read to model reading skills.
- Set the purpose: Not all reading should be “Learning to Read.” Most of the time you should just read for pleasure, sometimes you will read to learn.
- Model good reading habits:
 - ✓ Touch each word as you are reading.
 - ✓ Stop and think out loud about what you just read.
 - ✓ Make connections from one book to another or from your own life to the book: “This book reminds me of...”
- Print out familiar songs and point to each word as you sing together.
- Practice singing the alphabet.
- Say the alphabet out of order; point to different letters and help your child identify the letter’s name.
- Encourage them to write by drawing pictures and stories and telling you about them.
- Label household items such as “chair” or “refrigerator.”
- Play alphabet games.

Some other tips to help support literacy at home with your kindergarten-aged child:

- Take a trip to the TIS library. Have your child show you how they’ve learned to use the library. Ask the librarian how many books you can borrow. Let your child choose the books. Having books at home will encourage your child to make healthy reading habits.
- Sing songs with your child such as pop songs, child songs and songs from movies. This is a great way to encourage their language development.
- Set aside a time for the family to play games together with no technology.
- Let your child catch you reading for pleasure. When you show a love for reading, your child will grow to love it too.