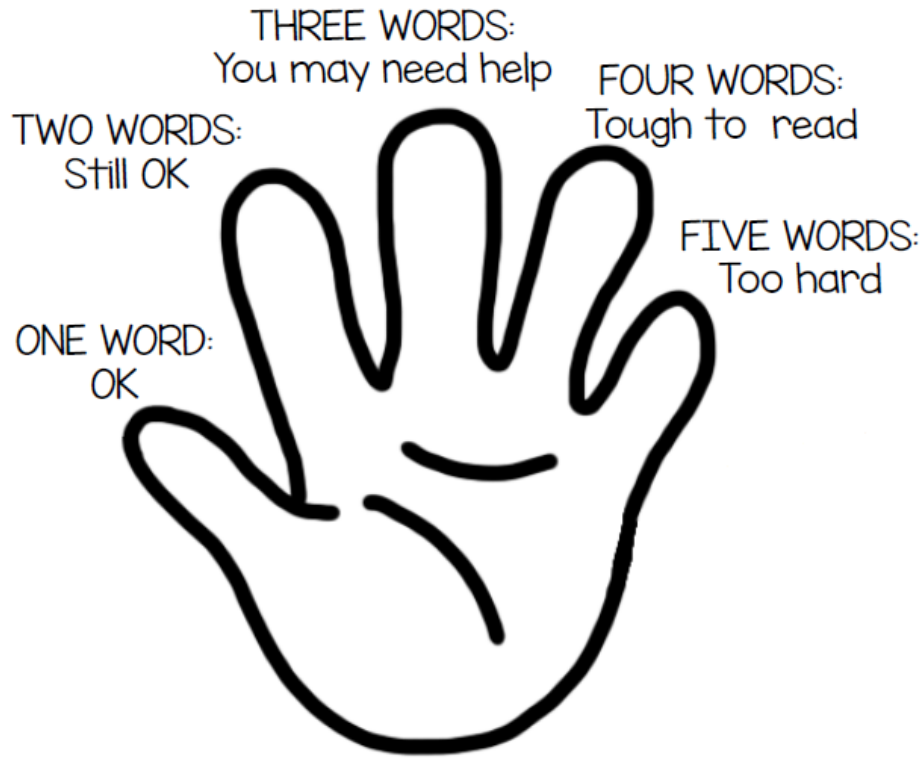


# Tips to Help Improve Your Child's Reading Skills



# Finding a “Just Right” Book

It's important to choose a book that's not too hard, not too easy, but one that is just right. Use these tips to find a book that is just right for your child.



## The Rule of 5

1. Open the book to any page.
2. Read the words on that page
3. Count the number of words that you cannot read.
4. Use your fingers to help you decide if this is a good book to read.

# Tracking Print

Tracking print is when you point to each word as you read it aloud.

While reading with your child, encourage them to track print as you read aloud or are reading together.

This will help them learn new words by seeing them and hearing them as you read aloud.

This will also help you know if your child is paying attention while listening to a read aloud.

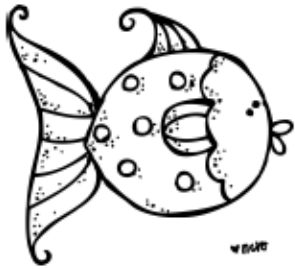
Children can track print with their finger, a pencil, or a cool pointer!

Model how to track print for your child!

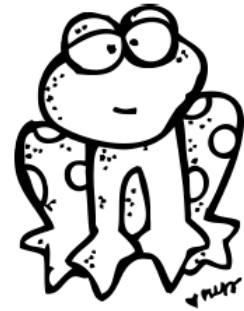


# Sound it Out!

Encourage your child to use different strategies when they are faced with a word they have trouble reading. Often we may say, "sound it out!" but there are many more ways to help encourage your child to read a difficult word. Here are some ways to "sound it out!"



**LIPS THE FISH**  
Say the first few sounds. Read the end of the sentence and say it again.



**SKIPPY THE FROG**  
Stuck on the word? Skip it, read the rest of the sentence and hop back!

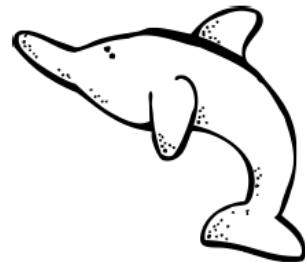
**LISTENING LION**

Does the word make sense? If not, try again.



**EAGLE EYES**

Check the pictures for clues to help you.



**CHUNKY MONKEY**

Look for little words inside bigger words to help you sound it out.



**FLIP THE DOLPHIN**  
Try the short vowel sound, then try the long vowel sound to sound it out.

**STRETCHY SNAKE**

Stretch the word out slowly. Say the sounds together to say the word.



# Asking the Right Questions

When you read with your child, check for understanding by asking questions.

Don't wait until the end of a story. You can ask questions at the beginning, during, and after reading.

Before	During	After
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do you think will happen in this story?</li><li>• What might be the problem?</li><li>• Where may be the setting of this story?</li><li>• What do you know about this topic?</li><li>• What does this story make you think of?</li><li>• What does the title tell you?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do you think will happen next?</li><li>• What can you tell me about the story so far?</li><li>• How do you feel about the story so far?</li><li>• What questions do you have?</li><li>• Why do you think the character did that?</li><li>• What would you have done?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What was the title of the book?</li><li>• What was the problem and solution?</li><li>• Why do you think the author wrote this book?</li><li>• What was your favorite part or least favorite part?</li><li>• What would you change about the story?</li><li>• What will happen next?</li></ul>