



Mrs Knight's Top Ten Tips for Summer Reading ...

1.) Borrow some books.



Books are always 'more special' if they are borrowed and you only have them for a length of time, they come from a particular place or person and ultimately, they have to go back.

2.) Read to or with your child.



Books, chapters, pages of books are always more inviting when you share them with your child or when a grandparent or older sibling reads with them.

3.) Be inventive with where you read.



The beauty of reading is that it can be done anywhere! Pop a book in a backpack when you are going on a bike ride and pause for a drink, snack and reading rest in amongst the grass and wild flowers. Pop a book in your picnic basket or a comic!

4.) Celebrate when you complete a book.



Maybe rent a video of the book that you have read and pop some popcorn. Other times it could be a virtual trip to a museum related to the book's content or a backyard camping trip. Have a discussion about the book or perhaps a cooking experience!

5.) Write a letter to your child and drop it in the mail.



One thing your child is absolutely going to want to read is a letter addressed to them coming through the letterbox! This could be from any family member or friend of the family. Don't be surprised if it encourages them to write one back too!

6.) Start a summer diary.



This could be something that the child dictates and you write down or type and that you can add to. Doodle some pictures or use the computer to add images. This will become a favourite book that the

child will want to pick up, re-read and add to throughout the summer weeks.

7.) Schedule a daily reading time.

Even if it is only for a short time each day. Maybe 15 minutes after lunch or just before bed? Make it cosy. Put the books in a 'special' bag or box that is only used for that time. Have a 'special' reading chair, blanket or cushion that is only used for that reading time. Your child will soon cherish that time.



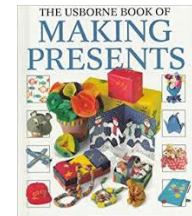
8.) Subscribe to a magazine.

If you can afford the expense, a child's newspaper, magazine or comic is a great way to encourage reading. As a child, I remember fighting to get to the letterbox before my brother when our Beano comic was delivered!



9.) Use and read 'To Do' books.

Children love to get their hands dirty. Doing 'stuff' is fun. Use reading as a jumping-off-point for arts and crafts activities, sports, cooking and science experiments. There are so many books out there that encourage reading as a starting point to then make, do or create something. A recipe book for example! Don't forget online books too!



10.) FAMILY READING

Probably my ultimate tip!

Parents can get in on this reading thing, too. Maybe one night a week, try turning off all the screens, and everyone pick up a good book or magazine; 15-30 minutes. Not only does that create some good reading practice time for your children, but it shows them that you're into reading too, which absolutely encourages reading. Modelling will

always be more powerful than telling. If you
get into reading, they will, too! Enjoy!