

RESEARCH BASED TIPS:

HOW TO CHOOSE AND USE E-READERS TO PROMOTE YOUR CHILD'S LANGUAGE & LITERACY AND USE TECHNOLOGY AS QUALITY FAMILY TIME

TIP 1: Choose the right app

- E-books can be very engaging and increase child's liking of reading.
- Watch out for e-books that are not too distracting (have few if any "activities" embedded in the actual e-book)
- For preschoolers and beginner readers – prefer e-books that highlight each word as it is spoken
- Older children can benefit from entire paragraphs highlighted as they are being read

TIP 2: Ask good questions

- At least for the first time or few times read the book together (even if it's read out loud by the device)
- Ask open ended questions about the story: Why is Cinderella sad? What happened to Cinderella's pretty dress? Why did it disappear?
- Ask the child to retell the story in their own words after you are done reading. Help the child create a narrative and understand the relationships between the story elements.
- When you come across a word your child might not be familiar with – ask them what they think it means? Define it for them. Provide synonyms and give examples of how it is used in other sentences. Ask the child to repeat the new word.

TIP 3: Connect the experiences

- Connect the book to the child's own experiences. For example, ask the child to think of a time when they experienced something similar to the character's feelings, experienced similar events, or know someone who did.
- Do something related to the story. Bake a cake, go to the zoo, build a castle together, listen to a song, etc. that relate to the story you have read.

TIP 4: tips 2 & 3 can also work well for watching educational television shows!