

THE EMERGENCY

I DON'T WANT TO READ KIT

Little Reading Rescues for the Days
When Books Get a **Big NO.**

READING
RESCUE!



Funny Books

Adventures

Mysteries

Animals

Comics

and More!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

The
Emergency
I Don't Want
to Read Kit

PARENT SOS

START HERE

A ONE-MINUTE GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Your child doesn't want to read?

Don't panic.

Don't lecture.

Pick one tiny rescue
and try again.

Reading resistance is a normal part of the journey.
This guide gives you simple, low-pressure ideas
to help turn a "no" into a "maybe" — and
sometimes even a "yes!"

GOOD
STORIES
BRIGHTER
DAYS

WHAT TO SAY

Use encouraging, low-pressure
language that invites rather than
pushes.

"Want to look at books together
and see what sounds fun?"

"Do you want me to read
the first page?"

"Let's try just 10 minutes
and see how it goes."

"You can stop if it's not
feeling right."

"What kind of story are
you in the mood for today?"

"Let's make it cozy!"

WHAT TO AVOID

These can accidentally increase
resistance, even when we mean
well.

- ✗ "You have to read."
- ✗ "Just a few more minutes."
- ✗ "You'll get in trouble if
you don't."
- ✗ "Other kids can do it."
- ✗ "Reading is important,
so stop complaining."
- ✗ "You're being lazy."
- ✗ "You already picked
that book."

THEY MIGHT JUST NEED A BREAK

Sometimes a child's "I don't want
to read" really means they need
a little reset. Look for these signs:

- ✓ They've had a long or stressful day.
- ✓ They seem tired, hungry, or
overwhelmed.
- ✓ They're easily frustrated.
- ✓ They've been doing a lot of
reading lately.
- ✓ They're stuck on a difficult book.
- ✓ They seem restless or distracted.
- ✓ They need a change of activity
or location.
- ✓ They just need a break — and
that's okay too!

REMEMBER:

A good reading day isn't always
a long reading day. Sometimes
it's one page, one laugh, or one
story shared.

YOU KNOW YOUR CHILD BEST.

Keep it positive, keep it light,
and choose one simple rescue
to try. Every small step
counts!

PICK A
READING RESCUE
ANYTIME. ANY ORDER.
NO PRESSURE! ♥

12 READING RECIPES ♥

Simple ideas to turn "I don't want to read"
into "Okay, maybe!" ♥

SMALL
IDEAS
MAKE A BIG
DIFFERENCE! ♥

1 CHANGE THE LOCATION ♥

Try a cozy spot, the couch, a blanket fort, outside, or even the car. A new place can bring new energy!

2 LET THEM PICK ♥

Give them the power to choose. Books, magazines, comics, joke books, or anything that interests them counts!

COMICS
ANIMALS
SPORTS
JOKES
MYSTERIES
ANYTHING!

3 TAKE TURNS READING ♥

You read a page, they read a page. You read a paragraph, they read a paragraph. Teamwork makes it feel easier!

4 SET A 10-MINUTE TIMER ♥

Try just ten minutes! Often, once they start, they want to keep going. Stopping early is always okay too.

10
MINUTES
= A WIN! ♥

5 READ SOMETHING FUNNY ♥

Silly books, riddles, joke books, or funny comics can break the resistance and bring on the giggles!

HA!
HA!
HA!

6 USE CHARACTER VOICES ♥

Be silly, dramatic, or make it sound like a movie. Funny voices make stories come to life!

ARRR!

7 LISTEN AND READ ALONG ♥

Try an audiobook from the library and follow along in the book. It builds confidence and fluency!

8 IT'S OKAY TO ABANDON A BOOK ♥

If they're not enjoying it, put it aside! Life's too short for boring books. Try something new.

NOT A FIT?

THAT'S OKAY!

THERE'S ANOTHER
GREAT STORY
WAITING! ♥

9 MIX IT UP ♥

Try a menu, a recipe, illustrated guide, game instructions, a map, a magazine, or a graphic novel. It all counts as reading!

10 MAKE IT HANDS-ON ♥

Act it out, draw a scene, build something, or create a craft inspired by the story. Adding a hands-on twist can make reading more fun!

11 FOLLOW THEIR INTERESTS ♥

Animals, sports, space, cooking, crafts, mysteries—when the topic excites them, reading feels less like work and more like fun!

ANIMALS
SPORTS
SPACE
MYSTERIES
DINOSAURS

12 KEEP IT POSITIVE ♥

Celebrate effort, curiosity, and time spent together—no matter how much they read. A positive attitude helps build a lifelong love of reading!

REMEMBER... ♥

There's no wrong way to try a reading recipe. Choose one, have fun, and see what happens! ♥

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN. ♥

READING RESCUE #1

CHANGE THE LOCATION

A new spot can bring new energy! ♥

SAME BOOK.
NEW SPOT.
BIGGER FUN! ♥

FRESH AIR

COZY SPOTS

BRIGHTER DAYS

HAPPIER READERS

Sometimes a change of scenery is all it takes to turn "I don't want to read" into "Okay, let's read!" A new location can make reading feel special, exciting, and even a little bit magical. ♥

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Pick a new spot from the ideas below (or come up with your own!).
- 2 Grab a book (any book!) and a cozy extra like a blanket, pillow, or snack.
- 3 Settle in and read for a few minutes. See how the new spot changes the vibe! ♥



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ A new space feels fresh and fun.
- ✓ It can help reduce distractions.
- ✓ It gives reading a sense of adventure.
- ✓ It shows that reading can fit into everyday life—anywhere!
- ✓ It can make even a tricky book feel a little easier. ♥

PARENT TIP:

Let your child help choose the spot and any cozy extras.

When they have a say, they're more likely to give it a try! ♥

-FUN PLACES TO TRY-

BLANKET FORT



Build a cozy fort with blankets and pillows. ♥

OUTSIDE



Try a porch, backyard, hammock, or under a tree. ♥

IN THE CAR



Read while waiting for practice, an appointment, or on a road trip. ♥

UNDER A TABLE



Turn a table into a secret reading hideout! ♥

IN A TENT



Set up an indoor tent for a camping reading adventure. ♥

BY A WINDOW



Watch the world go by while you read. ♥

IN A COMFY CHAIR



Find the squishiest spot in the house. ♥

WITH A SNACK



Pair a good book with a yummy snack. ♥

THERE ARE A MILLION PLACES TO READ—FIND WHAT FEELS GOOD FOR YOU! ♥

REMEMBER:

A new place won't fix everything... but it might be the little spark that makes reading feel fun again. ♥

NEW SPOTS

NEW STORIES

BRIGHTER DAYS ♥

READING RESCUE

#2

LET THEM PICK

Their choice. Their book. A happier reading day!

WHEN KIDS GET TO CHOOSE, THEY'RE MORE LIKELY TO READ AND ENJOY IT!

CURIOSITY

CONFIDENCE

ENGAGEMENT

BRIGHTER DAYS

Giving your child the power to choose what they read can turn resistance into excitement. When kids are interested in a topic or format, reading feels like a treat instead of a task.

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Offer a variety of options (see ideas below).
- 2 Let your child choose what looks interesting.
- 3 Set a cozy time and place to read.
- 4 Read together, take turns, or let them read on their own.



GOOD TO KNOW:

- ✓ Any kind of reading counts!
- ✓ Kids are more likely to read when they have a say.
- ✓ It helps build confidence and independence.
- ✓ Their interests might surprise you.
- ✓ It's okay if they choose the same thing again and again!

PARENT TIP:

Keep a selection of books and reading materials within easy reach. Rotate options often to keep things fresh and exciting!

IDEAS TO OFFER

Mix and match! Let them choose what looks interesting today (and tomorrow!).

BOOKS



Chapter books, short books, series, or a favorite book again (yes, again!).

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS



Fun illustrations and quick reading can build confidence and keep them engaged.

MAGAZINES



Perfect for curious minds! Try animal, science, sports, travel, or just fun facts.

TEXTS & LISTS



Real-life reading is meaningful (and fun!).

POETRY & JOKE BOOKS



Quick, playful reads that are great for any mood!

AUDIOBOOKS WITH TEXT



Listen and read along! It builds fluency and makes reading feel easier and more fun.

NONFICTION



Topics they love—animals, sports, space, history, crafts, and more!

ANYTHING ELSE!



If it has words and it interests them—it counts!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

THE BEST BOOK IS THE ONE THEY WANT TO READ.

READING RESCUE

#3

TAKE TURNS READING

You read a page, I read a page.

Sharing the story makes it more fun!

SAME STORY.
DIFFERENT
VOICES.
MORE FUN!

SHARED STORIES

BIG LAUGHS

STRONGER READERS

BRIGHTER DAYS

Taking turns reading takes the pressure off, builds confidence, and turns reading into a shared adventure.

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Choose a book together.
- 2 Decide how you'll take turns (one page, one paragraph, or a few sentences).
- 3 Take turns reading out loud.
- 4 Keep it relaxed and fun.
- 5 Try one of the fun ideas below to mix it up!



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Makes reading feel less intimidating.
- ✓ Builds fluency and confidence.
- ✓ Keeps both of you engaged.
- ✓ Gives kids practice without the pressure of doing it all.
- ✓ Turns reading into quality time.

It's not about being perfect.
It's about reading together!

PARENT TIP:

Let your child choose how to take turns. Some days it might be one page each. Other days it might be a paragraph, a few sentences, or even a single line. Follow their lead and keep it positive!

FUN WAYS TO TAKE TURNS

ONE PAGE EACH



You read a page, then they read a page.

PARAGRAPH SWITCH



You read a paragraph, then they read a paragraph.

SENTENCE BY SENTENCE



Take turns one sentence at a time. It keeps everyone involved!

TRY CHARACTER VOICES



Take turns and use different voices for characters. Silly, dramatic, or whisper quiet!

READ TO A STUFFED FRIEND



You read, they read—or each take a turn reading to a stuffed animal!

SWITCH AT A PICTURE



Switch turns each time you see a picture, a new page, or a new chapter.

LET THEM START



Let your child read first to build confidence.

MAKE IT A GAME



Write different turn-taking options on slips of paper and let your child pick!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

READING RESCUE

#4

SET A 10-MINUTE TIMER

Just a little time can go a long way!

TEN MINUTES CAN LEAD TO BIG ADVENTURES!

Sometimes reading feels like a big commitment. Ten minutes feels doable! A short, focused time can reduce resistance, build momentum, and often lead to "just one more chapter!"

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Choose a book or reading material.
- 2 Set a timer for 10 minutes.
- 3 Read, listen, or read together.
- 4 When the timer goes off, stop—no pressure to keep going (but they can if they want to!).



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Feels less overwhelming.
- ✓ Helps kids get started.
- ✓ Often builds momentum.
- ✓ Improves focus.
- ✓ Creates a sense of accomplishment.
- ✓ Gives them a choice to continue or stop.
- ✓ Works for busy days!

TEN MINUTES CAN TURN "NO" INTO "YES!"

FUN WAYS TO TRY IT:

RACE THE TIMER



See how much you can read before the timer goes off! Make it a friendly challenge.

THE TEN-MINUTE SPOT



Set the timer and read in a special cozy spot. A new spot can make it feel exciting!

MYSTERY STOP



Set the timer and stop at a surprise point. See what's happening and decide if you want to keep going!

READ AND SNACK



Set the timer and enjoy a little snack while you read. Ten minutes + a treat = extra fun!

LISTEN AND FOLLOW



Play an audiobook and follow along in the book for ten minutes.

SWITCH IT UP BOOKS



Try a different type of reading for ten minutes. Comics, jokes, or even a recipe can make it feel fresh!

TAKE TURNS



You read for a few minutes, then they read for a few minutes. The timer keeps it fair and fun!

JUST ONE MORE?



When the timer goes off, ask, "Do you want to stop, or read just a little more?" The choice is theirs!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

LITTLE TIME. BIG STORIES.

CURIOUS MINDS
KINDER READERS
BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

READING RESCUE

#5



JOKES

RIDDLES

FUNNY STORIES

SILLY BOOKS

READ SOMETHING FUNNY

Laughter is a great place to start! ❤️

FUN BOOKS CAN TURN A TOUGH DAY INTO A BRIGHTER ONE! ❤️

Funny books, jokes, and silly stories can break the resistance and remind kids that reading is supposed to be enjoyable! ❤️

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Find a funny book or reading material. ★
- 2 Set a cozy spot and get comfortable. ❤️
- 3 Read together or let them read on their own.
- 4 Enjoy the laughs and see where it leads! ❤️

WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Laughter lowers stress. ★
- ✓ Funny books feel less like work.
- ✓ Humor grabs attention.
- ✓ It helps build positive feelings toward reading.
- ✓ It can lead to longer reading sessions—because they want to keep going! ❤️

PARENT TIP: ❤️

It doesn't have to be a chapter book! Jokes, comics, funny picture books, and even silly articles all count. Follow their sense of humor and let them choose what makes them laugh!

LAUGHTER BUILDS READERS! ❤️

IDEAS TO TRY:

JOKE BOOKS



Short and silly jokes are perfect for quick reads and big laughs!

FUNNY PICTURE BOOKS



Silly characters and unexpected endings always get giggles!

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS



Lots of pictures, lots of humor, and easy to get lost in!

RIDDLES & TONGUE TWISTERS



Try a page of riddles or tongue twisters and see who can make the silliest one!

SILLY NONFICTION



Strange facts and surprising information can be hilarious!

MAGAZINES & ARTICLES



Try kid magazines filled with fun facts, comics, puzzles, and silly sections. ❤️

READ WITH FUNNY VOICES



Use silly voices for the characters. The goofier, the better! ❤️

MAKE IT AN ACTIVITY



- ✓ Read a page.
- ✓ Choose a funny part.
- ✓ Read it with a funny voice.
- ✓ Try a different ending.
- ✓ Make up a joke about it!

Good Tidings ❤️

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

A GOOD LAUGH ALWAYS COUNTS. ❤️

HAPPIER READERS

BRIGHTER DAYS

KINDER MINDS ❤️

READING RESCUE

#6

USE CHARACTER VOICES

Bring the story to life!

DIFFERENT VOICES TURN WORDS INTO ADVENTURES!

Changing your voice can make reading more fun, more engaging, and help your child really get into the story. It turns simple words into lively characters and can make even a tricky book feel exciting!

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Choose a book or a short passage.
- 2 Pick one or two characters to give a voice.
- 3 Read a few pages using different voices.
- 4 Let your child take a turn and try their own voices too!



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Makes reading more fun and memorable.
- ✓ Helps kids pay attention.
- ✓ Builds fluency and expression.
- ✓ Brings characters to life.
- ✓ Encourages creativity and imagination.
- ✓ Can make even a difficult passage feel easier to read.

PARENT TIP:

You don't have to be a "good" actor—silly is better! The goofier the voice, the more fun it is. Let your child hear you make mistakes and laugh. It shows them reading can be playful and not perfect!

BIG VOICES. BIG FUN!

VOICE IDEAS TO TRY:

SILLY VOICE



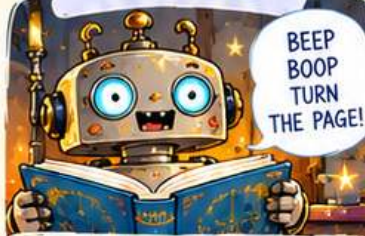
Use a funny, silly, or goofy voice to make everyone laugh.

MONSTER VOICE



Try a deep, growly, monster voice. Extra points for exaggeration!

ROBOT VOICE



Read like a robot—slow, choppy, and dramatic!

ANIMAL VOICE



Use animal sounds or try to sound like your pet (or a wild animal!).

WHISPER VOICE



Read in a quiet whisper for a mysterious feeling.

ROYAL VOICE



Use a fancy, royal voice. Add a crown or pretend you're a king or queen!

DIFFERENT ACCENTS



Try a different accent—British, pirate, cowboy, or even a made-up one!

SWITCH IT UP



Take turns choosing a new voice for each page or character.

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

A LITTLE IMAGINATION GOES A LONG WAY!

SAME STORY

NEW VOICES

MORE FUN

BRIGHTER DAYS

READING RESCUE

#7

LISTEN AND READ ALONG

Two ways to enjoy the same story!

SAME STORY. TWO WAYS TO ENJOY IT! LISTEN AND READ!

Listening and reading at the same time can make stories come alive! The words you hear help you read the words on the page, which can build confidence, fluency, and enjoyment.

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Choose a book that has an audiobook version.
- 2 Find the print book or open the e-book with text.
- 3 Press play and read along with the narration.
- 4 Pause anytime to talk about the story, look at the pictures, or take a break!



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Hears how the words sound. Helps with pronunciation.
- ✓ Builds reading confidence.
- ✓ Models fluent, expressive reading.
- ✓ Keeps kids engaged with audio, pictures, and text.
- ✓ Works for all kinds of readers (beginning readers, reluctant readers, and confident readers too!).

PARENT TIP:

Use audiobooks from your library, favorite apps, or look for the "Read Along" feature on many e-books. Let your child choose what they want to listen to and read. It's not about how fast they read—it's about enjoying the story!

FUN WAYS TO TRY IT:

PICTURE BOOK PAIR



Listen and read a favorite picture book together.

CHAPTER ADVENTURE



Try a chapter book and listen one chapter at a time.

POETRY & RHYMES



Listen and read along with funny poems or rhyming stories.

FAMILY LISTEN TOGETHER



Make it a family read-along! Take turns reading a page out loud.

TRY A NEW GENRE



Explore a different genre with audio to see what they might like.

READ ON A DEVICE



Use a library app or e-book with a read-along feature. The words highlight as you listen!

FOLLOW THE WORDS



Watch the words as they're read. Seeing and hearing the words together helps them stick!

MAKE IT COZY



Find a comfy spot, grab a blanket, and settle in for a read-along adventure!

GOOD STORIES TRAVEL FURTHER

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

SAME STORY MORE WAYS TO READ HAPPIER READERS BRIGHTER DAYS

READING RESCUE

#8



IT'S OKAY TO ABANDON A BOOK

Not every book is the right book—
and that's a good thing! ♥

THE
RIGHT BOOK
IS OUT
THERE
FOR YOU!
♥

Sometimes a book just doesn't click—and that's okay! ♥
Abandoning a book isn't quitting. It's making room for a story you'll actually enjoy!

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Notice the signs it's not a good fit. ★
- 2 Give yourself permission to stop.
- 3 Choose a new book that feels more interesting. ♥
- 4 Try again—something better is waiting! ★



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Keeps reading positive. ★
- ✓ Helps kids find books they genuinely enjoy.
- ✓ Builds confidence and independence.
- ✓ Teaches that everyone has different tastes.
- ✓ Saves time and prevents reading frustration. ♥
- ✓ Leads to more reading overall! ♥

PARENT TIP: ♥

Let your child see you switch books too!

Talk about your own reading "likes" and "no thanks" books.

Celebrate the search for a better fit.

Remind them—stopping a book means you're a thoughtful reader who knows what you like!



GOOD BOOKS
BRING
GOOD
MOODS! ♥

SIGNS IT MIGHT BE TIME TO MOVE ON:

IT FEELS BORING

I keep looking at the same page...

If it feels boring, slow, or you keep getting distracted, it might not be the right book.

IT'S CONFUSING



If you're more confused than curious, try a different book for now.

YOU DON'T CARE

I just don't care what happens next.

If you don't care about the characters or what happens, that's a sign to move on.

IT DOESN'T FEEL GOOD



If it feels like work, makes you feel frustrated or annoyed, it's okay to stop.

SWAP FOR A NEW GENRE

Funny Books
Animals
Mysteries ♥
Adventure
Graphic Novels ♥

Try a different type of book.

TRY A SHORTER BOOK



A shorter book can be a great reset!

Pick a shorter book to build momentum.

CHOOSE SOMETHING FUN



Pick a book that makes you smile, laugh, or feel excited. ♥

ASK FOR IDEAS

Friends
Teachers
Librarians ♥
Family
Booklists
Your own interests!

Get suggestions from people who know what you like.

Good Tidings ♥

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

NEW BOOKS ♥
NEW ADVENTURES
BRIGHTER DAYS ♥

READING RESCUE

#9

Mix IT UP!

Try a new way to read!

THERE ARE SO MANY FUN WAYS TO READ A STORY!

SAME STORY

DIFFERENT WAYS

FRESH IDEAS

MORE FUN

BRIGHTER READERS

Reading doesn't have to look the same every time. When you mix it up, reading stays fresh, exciting, and fun! Try a new way to read and see what works best for you.

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Choose a story or reading material.
- 2 Pick a different way to read it.
- 3 Give it a try for a few minutes.
- 4 Notice how it feels. If you like it, keep going! If not, try another way!



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Keeps reading exciting and fresh.
- ✓ Helps prevent boredom.
- ✓ Gives you a choice.
- ✓ Builds comprehension in different ways.
- ✓ Lets you find what works best for you.
- ✓ Turns the same story into a new experience!

PARENT TIP:

Let your child be the "reading director!"

Take turns choosing a new way to read.

You might be surprised which way becomes a favorite!

FUN WAYS TO MIX IT UP:

SWITCH THE SPOT



Read in a new place—under a blanket, outside, in a cozy corner, or even while eating a snack!

CHANGE THE FORMAT



Try a print book, e-book, audiobook, graphic novel, magazine, or even a recipe or a comic!

READ OUT LOUD



Use silly voices, different accents, or act it out like a play!

TAKE TURNS



You read a page, I'll read a page. Take turns!

ADD MOVEMENT



Read while stretching, swinging, walking, or doing a quiet fidget.

TRY A CHALLENGE



Pull a fun idea from a jar (like read backwards, read with a stuffed animal, or read a page in a whisper)!

COMBINE IDEAS



Mix two or more ideas! Example: read outside AND use funny voices.

MAKE IT A ROUTINE



Try a new way to read once a week and see what becomes a favorite!

DIFFERENT WAYS.
SAME STORIES.
BRIGHTER DAYS.

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

TRY. EXPLORE.
MIX IT UP.
FIND YOUR FUN!

READING RESCUE

#10

CREATE

MOVE

BUILD

PLAY

EXPLORE

MAKE IT HANDS-ON!

Turn reading into a do, make, and explore adventure!

GET CREATIVE,
GET MOVING,
GET MAKING...
AND KEEP READING!

Hands-on activities give kids a new way to connect with stories. When reading involves doing, making, or playing, it feels fresh, engaging, and memorable!

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Choose a story or a short passage.
- 2 Pick a hands-on activity from below (or invent your own!).
- 3 Gather a few simple supplies.
- 4 Read, create, and enjoy!



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Makes reading more engaging.
- ✓ Helps build comprehension and memory.
- ✓ Appeals to different learning styles.
- ✓ Encourages creativity and imagination.
- ✓ Turns reading into a positive experience.

PARENT TIP:

It doesn't have to be perfect! Keep it simple and fun. Every child is different—let them choose what interests them and celebrate their creativity. The goal isn't a finished product—it's a meaningful, enjoyable reading experience!

FUN HANDS-ON IDEAS TO TRY:

STORY SCENE IN A SHOEBOX



Create a small scene from the story using a shoebox, paper, and simple supplies.

CHARACTER PUPPETS



Make puppets using paper bags, popsicle sticks, or socks, then act out the story!

STORY COMIC STRIP



Draw a short comic strip of the story's favorite part.

BUILD IT



Use building blocks, LEGO®, or recycled materials to build a scene or character.

CREATE A MAP



Draw a map of the story setting (or a new place for the characters to explore).

MAKE A PROP



Create a simple prop like a wand, hat, key, or badge to use while you read.

STORY SNACK



Make a snack inspired by the story—like a magical treat or a food the character might eat.

NATURE CONNECTION



Take a short nature walk and collect items to use while reading (a leaf for a bookmark, a rock for a character, or inspiration for a new story).

HANDS-ON
READING
BUILDS BIG
IMAGINATIONS!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

READ IT.

MAKE IT.

PLAY IT.

LIVE IT.

READING RESCUE

#11

ANIMALS

SPORTS

SPACE

ART

HUMOR

ADVENTURES

AND MORE!

FOLLOW THEIR INTERESTS

When reading connects to what they love, it doesn't feel like a chore—it feels like an adventure!

Kids are more likely to read when the topic excites them. Their interests can be the key that unlocks a lifelong love of reading!

REAL INTERESTS LEAD TO REAL READING HABITS!

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Think about what your child already loves or is curious about.
- 2 Find books, articles, or reading materials that match those interests.
- 3 Let them choose what they want to read.
- 4 Keep a variety of options available and be open to unexpected interests!



WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Builds motivation and excitement for reading.
- ✓ Helps kids make personal connections to what they read.
- ✓ Increases comprehension and confidence.
- ✓ Introduces new vocabulary in a meaningful way.
- ✓ Encourages exploration and curiosity.

PARENT TIP:

Interests can change—and that's a good thing! Let their curiosities lead the way. Even if it's something unexpected (like dinosaurs or dance moves), it's still reading, and it still counts!

INTEREST IDEAS TO EXPLORE:

ANIMALS



Try books about pets, wild animals, or animal facts. Look for true stories, too!

SPORTS



Read player biographies, how-to books, or stories about your favorite team or sport.

SPACE



Explore books about planets, rockets, astronauts, or what's beyond our world!

ART & CREATIVITY



Try books about drawing, crafts, artists, or creative projects you can try!

ADVENTURE & MYSTERY



Look for exciting stories, mysteries, or survival adventures.

FUNNY BOOKS



Joke books, comics, and funny stories are always a great choice!

REAL LIFE TOPICS



Try books about cooking, building, video games, fashion, money, or anything real-world they're curious about!

UNEXPECTED INTERESTS



Even unusual interests—like rocks, bugs, vehicles, or inventions—can lead to amazing books!

ANY INTEREST CAN LEAD TO A GREAT BOOK!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

EXPLORE

DISCOVER

BE CURIOUS

KEEP READING

READING RESCUE

#12

KEEP IT POSITIVE!

Encouragement goes a long way when it comes to reading!

A POSITIVE READING EXPERIENCE BUILDS CONFIDENCE AND A LOVE OF BOOKS!

A positive attitude makes reading feel good—and that keeps kids coming back for more! Celebrate effort, progress, and joy, no matter how big or small.

HOW TO TRY IT:

- 1 Focus on the effort, not perfection.
- 2 Notice and celebrate the small wins.
- 3 Use encouraging words and a positive tone.
- 4 Make reading a happy, pressure-free time together.

WHY IT WORKS:

- ✓ Builds confidence and self-esteem.
- ✓ Helps kids see themselves as readers.
- ✓ Makes reading feel safe, friendly, and fun.
- ✓ Encourages a growth mindset ("I can do it!").
- ✓ Turns reading into a positive and enjoyable habit.

PARENT TIP:

Your words matter! Try using encouraging phrases like, "I love how you figured that out!" or "Look at your progress!"

A positive, supportive attitude helps your child feel proud and excited to keep reading.

FUN WAYS TO KEEP IT POSITIVE:

CELEBRATE SMALL WINS



Notice and celebrate little successes like finishing a page, trying a new word, or sticking with a tricky part.

CREATE A HAPPY SPACE



Make reading time cozy and inviting with pillows, blankets, and a favorite spot.

USE ENCOURAGING WORDS



Use positive phrases that build confidence and show your support.

SHARE THE JOY



Read something you both enjoy and talk about what made it fun.

TRACK GOOD MOMENTS



Write or draw a favorite moment from each reading session and add it to a jar.

MAKE IT A TRADITION



Try a special reading routine like "Ten Minutes and a Treat" or "Story Before Bed."

BE A READING CHEERLEADER



Give high-fives, happy dances, or a silly cheer when they finish a book or try something new.

LET THEM LEAD



Let your child pick the books, topics, or ways to read. Their excitement leads the way!

POSITIVE READING MOMENTS LEAD TO BRIGHTER TOMORROWS!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

KINDER MINDS
BRAVER READERS
BRIGHTER DAYS

READING RESCUE CARDS

Cut apart these cards and keep them handy for a quick reading rescue! ♥

6

QUICK IDEAS
FOR HAPPIER
READING
MOMENTS!

1

READ LIKE A ROBOT ♥

- ★ Pick a page or paragraph.
- ★ Read it like a robot!
- ★ Use a flat voice, move slowly, or sound like a machine.
- ★ Take turns and make it silly!

Good Tidings ♥ WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

2

YOU PICK, I READ! ♥

- ★ You choose the book, page, or topic.
- ★ I'll do the reading (or we'll take turns).
- ★ Sit back, listen, and enjoy!
- ★ You're in charge!

Good Tidings ♥ WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

3

MYSTERY PAGE ♥

- ★ Open your book to a random page.
- ★ Read just that page!
- ★ See what happens—it might be funny, exciting, or surprising!
- ★ Want more? Keep going!

Good Tidings ♥ WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

4

COZY SPOT SWAP ♥

- ★ Find a new place to read.
- ★ Try a blanket fort, under a table, by a window, outside, or in a cozy corner.
- ★ Take a book and settle in!
- ★ A new spot can make reading feel brand new!

Good Tidings ♥ WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

5

LAUGH FIRST! ♥

- ★ Choose a funny book, comic, or silly story.
- ★ Read a page (or a few!).
- ★ Look for something that makes you giggle!
- ★ Share your favorite funny part!

Good Tidings ♥ WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

6

ONE PAGE EACH ♥

- ★ Pick a book.
- ★ Take turns reading one page at a time.
- ★ Keep going for a few rounds.
- ★ Talk about your favorite part.
- ★ It's a great way to share and stay involved!

Good Tidings ♥ WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.



Official Permission Slip to Stop Reading a Boring Book!



I hereby give myself permission to stop reading this book because...

Book Title: _____

My Name: _____

Date: _____

What didn't work for me?

- ☐ It was too slow.
- ☐ It was confusing.
- ☐ I didn't like the characters.
- ☐ It just didn't grab me.
- ☐ It wasn't what I expected.
- ☐ Other: _____

What would I rather try?

- ☐ A funnier book 😄
- ☐ A mystery 🔍
- ☐ An adventure 🗺️
- ☐ A comic or graphic novel **POW!**
- ☐ A book about something I love ❤️
- ☐ My own choice: _____



Signed: _____

(The Reader in Charge!)



Not every book is for every reader.
Finding the right book is part of the
reading adventure! ❤️





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reading adventure! ❤️



KINDER
WORDS
BRIGHTER
READERS

WHAT TO SAY **INSTEAD**

A Parent Cheat Sheet

Replace pressure with invitations
and watch reading go from a battle
to a brighter experience!

SMALL
SHIFTS
MAKE A
BIG
DIFFERENCE

★ WHEN YOUR CHILD FEELS FRUSTRATED

Instead of...

"Just keep trying."
"You're overreacting."
"It's not that hard."
"You should know this
by now."

Try...

★ "This part can be tricky.
Want to try it together?"
★ "It's okay to find this hard.
Many good readers do."
★ "Would you like a hint,
or should we figure it
out together?"
"What would help right now?
A break, a different book,
or a new strategy?"

Frustration is a sign
they're stretching and growing!

★ WHEN YOUR CHILD SAYS, "IT'S BORING!"

Instead of...

"You have to read it
anyway."
"It's a good book."
"You might like it
if you just try harder."
"Don't be so picky."

Try...

★ "What would make it
more interesting for you?"
★ "Want to try a different
book, topic, or format?"
★ "Would you like to read the
first page together?"
"What kind of stories
do you usually enjoy?"

Boredom is a clue—
help them find what excites them!

★ WHEN THE BOOK FEELS TOO DIFFICULT

Instead of...

"You should be able
to read this."
"It's at your level."
"Just sound it out."
"You're smart.
You can do it."

Try...

★ "Want me to read the
first page?"
★ "Would you like to try
the pictures first?"
★ "Let's read it together
(or take turns)."
"Should we try a different
book or come back to this
one later?"

Different books work for
different times—and that's okay!

★ WHEN YOUR CHILD KEEPS REFUSING TO READ

Instead of...

"You have to read
for 20 minutes."
"If you don't read,
then no ____."
"You're going to fall behind."
"This is important.
You need to do it."

Try...

★ "Want me to read the first
page and you can decide?"
★ "Would you like to read
later, or pick something
different right now?"
★ "Let's do a quick 5 minutes
and see how it goes."
"Do you want to read with
me, listen to an audiobook,
or try a different kind of
book, like a comic or joke book?"

Keep the door open.
A small invitation can turn
into a big "yes" later!

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

MORE
POSITIVE
CONVERSATIONS
BRIGHTER
READING DAYS

YES, THAT COUNTS AS READING!

Reading comes in many forms, and they all count! ♥

Follow what interests you! ♥

STORYBOOKS



Chapter books, picture books, and early readers all count! ♥

GRAPHIC NOVELS & COMICS



Words and pictures together tell a story! ★

POETRY



Short, silly, serious—all kinds of poems count! ♥

MAGAZINES



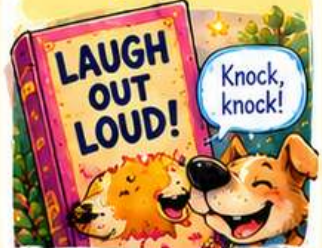
Animals, sports, science, hobbies, and more! ★

RECIPES



Reading recipes builds real-life skills (and usually ends with something yummy!) ♥

JOKES



Jokes, riddles, and funny books count too! ♥

MENUS



Menus help us read in real life—at home and out in the world! ★

MAPS



Maps, atlases, and directions help us explore new places. ♥

INSTRUCTIONS



Building, crafting, and game instructions are reading too! ★

TEXTS & EMAILS



Text messages, emails, and notes are real reading! ♥

LABELS & SIGNS



Signs, labels, and warnings help keep us safe—and they count! ★

LISTS



To-do lists, packing lists, and job lists are reading too! ♥

WEBSITES & BLOGS



Reading online can help you learn, create, and discover what you love! ★

GAME RULES



Rules, directions, and game guides count as reading! ♥

ANYTHING THAT INTERESTS YOU!



READ
EXPLORE
DISCOVER
YOUR WAY! ♥

TRY THIS:

- ✓ Look around your home or community.
- ✓ Make a list of 5 things you can read that aren't regular storybooks.
- ✓ Try one new type of reading this week!

THE GOAL:

Find what you enjoy, because reading is more than books—it's a way to explore, learn, and see a bigger, brighter world! ♥

Good Tidings ♥

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

CURIOUS MINDS
HAPPIER READERS
BRIGHTER DAYS



Your Family's READING RESCUE PLAN

When reading gets tricky... we'll try!

Different
days.
Different
books.
Brighter
tomorrows.

1 CHOOSE OUR TOP 3 READING RESCUES

Look through the ideas and pick the three we want to try most often.

1

2

3

2 KEEP A FEW IDEAS HANDY

These are some of our favorite reading rescues (check the ones we like):

- ☐ Change locations
- ☐ Let them pick
- ☐ Read like a robot
- ☐ You pick, I read
- ☐ Mystery page
- ☐ Cozy spot swap
- ☐ Laugh first
- ☐ One page each
- ☐ It's okay to abandon a book
- ☐ Mix it up
- ☐ Make it hands on
- ☐ Follow their interests
- ☐ Keep it positive

3 MAKE IT EASY TO REMEMBER

We'll keep this plan somewhere we can see it (like the fridge)!

We'll try:

- ♥ One tiny idea at a time.
- ♥ To keep it fun and low pressure.
- ♥ To notice what works.
- ♥ To change it up when needed.
- ♥ To celebrate the effort, not just the amount.

4 SOME DAYS MIGHT LOOK LIKE...



A cozy spot
and a silly voice



A comic before
bed



A map, menu,
or recipe



We read
together
(or take turns)



A hands-on
reading activity



An audiobook
with the text

A good reading day
isn't always a long reading day.
Sometimes it's one page,
one laugh, or one story shared.

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

GOOD
STORIES
BRIGHTER
DAYS

The 10-Minute READING RESCUE CHALLENGE

A tiny experiment for tricky reading moments

Same book.
Different approach.
A fresh start.
Just 10 minutes.
You've got this!

1 PICK A READING RESCUE

Look back through this kit and let your child choose one idea to try. Any rescue is a good choice!



Change
Locations



You Pick,
I Read



Read Like
a Robot



Mystery
Page



Make It
Hands On

2 SET A 10-MINUTE TIMER

Give it a try for up to 10 minutes.
Keep it low pressure and light.



It's just
10 minutes.
We can always
switch or stop!

3 TRY IT TOGETHER

Jump in and give the rescue a try.
You can read together, take turns,
or let your child take the lead.



4 CHECK IN

When the timer is done,
talk about it. How did it feel?

Do you
want to
keep going?

Do you want
to switch to
something else?

Or do you
want to
stop for now?

5 DECIDE TOGETHER

There's no wrong answer!
The goal is to find what
works best today.

KEEP GOING

SWITCH IT UP

STOP FOR NOW

OUR 10-MINUTE READING RESCUE EXPERIMENT

Rescue we chose to try:



What we noticed:



What we'll do next time:



Small
steps
still lead
to big
readers!

A GENTLE NOTE FOR PARENTS

Persistent reading resistance can sometimes signal more than a lack of motivation. It may be related to challenges with decoding, comprehension, attention, or reading confidence.

If your child frequently avoids reading, gets frustrated, or says it's "too hard," consider talking with their teacher or a reading specialist. Extra support, practice, or a different approach can make a big difference. You're not alone—and neither are they. With the right help and positive experiences, most children can find their way to reading with more confidence and joy.

REMEMBER...

There's no perfect way to read.

Short and silly still counts.

Exploring different types of reading helps build confidence.

It's okay to change, pause, or stop.

What matters most is keeping reading a positive experience.

Good Tidings
WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

CURIOSITY
CONFIDENCE
KINDER WORDS
BRIGHTER DAYS

What's Really Behind the **NO**?

♥ A Parent Decoder ♥

When a child says "I don't want to read," there's usually more going on. Here are some common clues, what they might really mean, and a helpful reading rescue to try. ♥

Different reasons.
Different solutions.
Brighter reading days!
♥

1

When your child says...

"This is boring!"

They might mean...

- The topic isn't interesting to them.
- It feels slow or doesn't hold their attention.
- They want something more exciting or funny.

Try this rescue...

- Let them pick something that truly interests them. ★
- Try a new format (comic, joke book, magazine, or graphic novel).

2

When your child says...

"It's too hard!"

They might mean...

- They're struggling with decoding.
- They don't understand what they're reading.
- It feels frustrating or makes them feel discouraged.

Try this rescue...

- Read together or take turns. ★
- Listen to an audiobook with the text.
- Try a shorter or easier book.

3

When your child says...

"I don't feel like it!"

They might mean...

- They're tired, overwhelmed, or have had a lot going on.
- They need a break.
- Their brain needs a lower-pressure option.

Try this rescue...

- Try a cozy spot and a shorter reading time. ★
- Let them choose a calm, comforting book.
- Use the 10-Minute Reading Rescue Challenge.

4

When your child says...

"It's taking forever!"

They might mean...

- The task feels too big.
- They lose focus or get distracted.
- They want to see progress faster.

Try this rescue...

- Set a 10-minute timer. ★
- Try a one-page each plan.
- Switch to a shorter book or a different format.

5

When your child says...

"I hate this book!"

They might mean...

- It's not a good match for their interests.
- They don't like the writing style or characters.
- The book just doesn't feel right for them—and that's okay!

Try this rescue...

- Use the Book Breakup Permission Slip. ★
- Let them choose a new book.
- Explore a different genre, topic, or format.

6

When your child says...

"I can't do it!"

They might mean...

- Their confidence is low.
- They've had repeated struggles.
- They're worried about making mistakes or being judged.

Try this rescue...

- Read together and offer support.
- Choose something they can read successfully.
- Keep it positive—praise effort, not just the amount. ★

A GENTLE REMINDER ♥

These are common possibilities, not diagnoses. ♥
Every child is different, and reading resistance can have many causes. If your child frequently struggles with decoding, comprehension, attention, or reading confidence, it may be helpful to talk with their teacher about additional support or a reading skills check. You know your child best, and you're not alone. ♥

Good Tidings ♥

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

Right Book
Right Support
Brighter Days
Greater Confidence ♥

When Reading Still Feels Hard

A Gentle Parent Guide

You've tried the rescues, and that's amazing! If your child is still struggling, here are some next steps to consider.

Different learners. Different paths. Same bright futures.

1 Notice

Look for signs that reading feels difficult, not just uninteresting.



- ☐ Frequently guesses words or has trouble decoding.
- ☐ Loses their place often.
- ☐ Avoids reading aloud.
- ☐ Struggles to explain what they've read.
- ☐ Becomes unusually frustrated or upset during reading.
- ☐ Says it's "too hard" often.
- ☐ Seems to lack confidence even with easier books.

These signs can mean reading is genuinely challenging, not just a lack of motivation.

KINDER WORDS

KINDER SUPPORT

BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

2 Connect

Talk with your child's teacher to get a clearer picture and explore next steps.



- ☐ Share specific examples of what you're noticing at home.
- ☐ Ask what they're noticing at school.
- ☐ Talk about whether a reading skills check or additional support might be helpful.
- ☐ Ask about resources, strategies, or programs that could support your child's needs.
- ☐ Keep the conversation positive and focused on helping your child grow as a reader.

You know your child best, and your teacher is a valuable partner. Together you can find the right support.

Sometimes a child doesn't need another reason to read.

They need someone to understand why reading feels hard.

Good Tidings

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN.

3 Keep the Joy

While you explore support, keep reading a positive, low-pressure experience at home.



- ☐ Continue reading aloud together.
- ☐ Offer accessible books that build confidence.
- ☐ Explore different formats (audiobooks, graphic novels, poetry, comics, etc.).
- ☐ Let your child choose what they want to read.
- ☐ Keep the focus on connection, curiosity, and enjoyment—not pressure.
- ☐ Celebrate small steps and effort.
- ☐ Remind them that all reading counts!

Even while working through challenges, books can still be a place of comfort, fun, and connection.

PATIENCE
POSSIBILITIES
CONFIDENCE
JOYFUL READERS