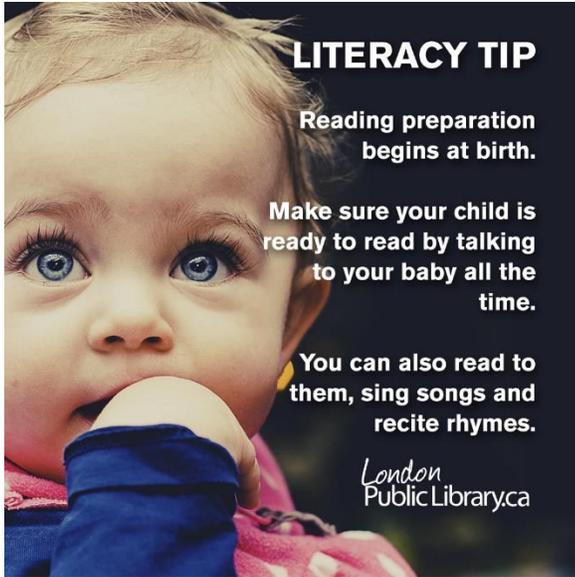


**Reading is one of the most important skills a person needs to be successful in school, work and to lead a healthy life. Reading is a right and it begins at birth.**



**LITERACY TIP**

Reading preparation begins at birth.

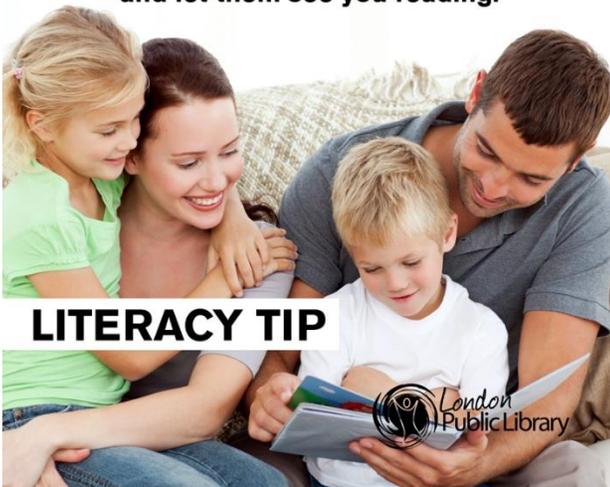
Make sure your child is ready to read by talking to your baby all the time.

You can also read to them, sing songs and recite rhymes.

London Public Library.ca

Visit the London Public Library's [Early Years](#) page for information about storytimes, how to get a borrower's card, where to pick up a free Baby's Book Bag and watch the [Literacy Right From the Start](#) video in English, French, Spanish or Arabic.

**Parents are a child's first and most important teacher. Be a good role model and let them see you reading.**



**LITERACY TIP**

London Public Library

Read aloud to your child.

Did you know children have both a listening and reading vocabulary and they don't match up until grade 8?

When you read aloud to a child, you expose them to rich vocabulary and complex storylines they aren't ready to read themselves.

When you read aloud to a child, you share your love of reading and let them know you enjoy spending time with them.

**LITERACY TIP**

**PLAY WITH SOUNDS!**

Ask your child if these words rhyme.  
*dog-hog cup-pup rain-hat*

Rhymes are important for  
literacy development.



Letters, sounds and rhymes are all building blocks for reading. Start small and have fun!



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**ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO READ  
IN THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE.**

Reading in their first language will help  
them when they read in English.

Libraries have collections of dual language pictures books as well as print and ebooks in a wide variety of languages.

**LITERACY  
TIP**

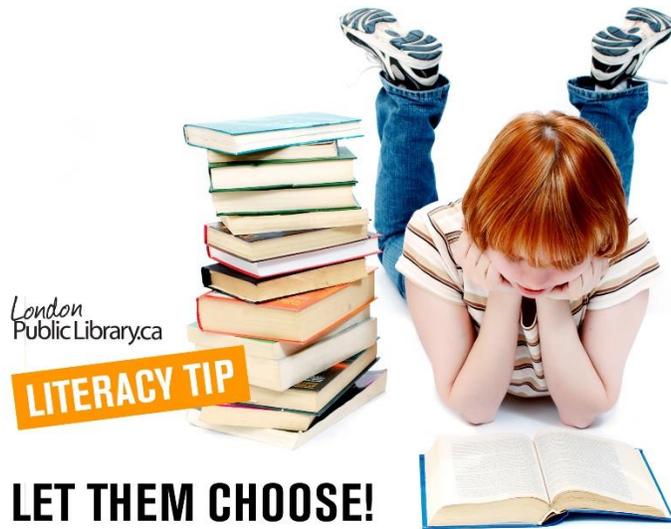
Read to your child regularly at bedtime.  
It's a wonderful way to share stories  
and calm down after a hectic day.

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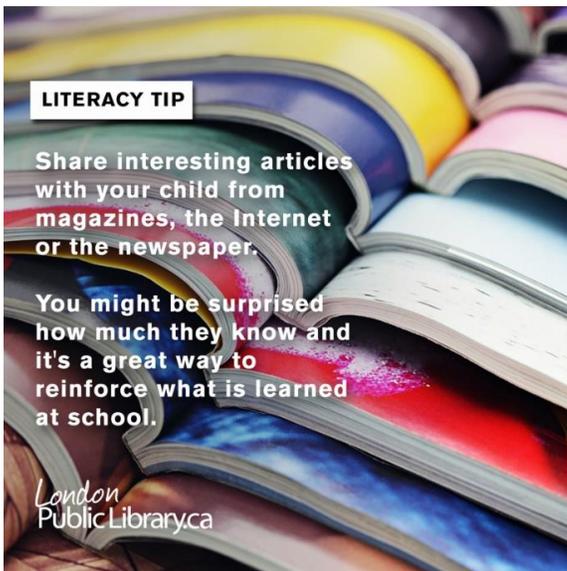


Did you know that reading is a more effective way to calm yourself than even taking a walk or listening to music?

Reading is a use it or lose it skill. It takes a lifetime of practice to build and maintain reading skills.  
If you aren't interested in the material, you are less likely to read.



Children and teens spend a lot of time reading in school, so it's important to let them choose books they like to read at home. Studies show it helps them do well in school.

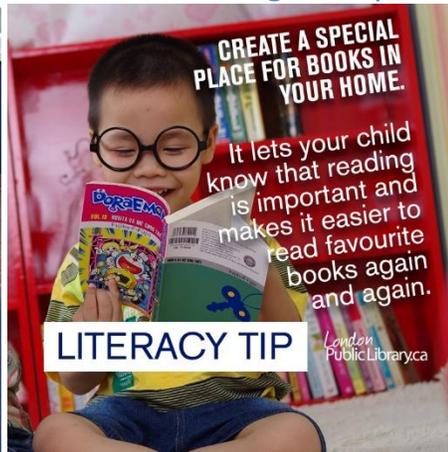


Reading from a wide range of topics-both fiction and non fiction builds general knowledge.

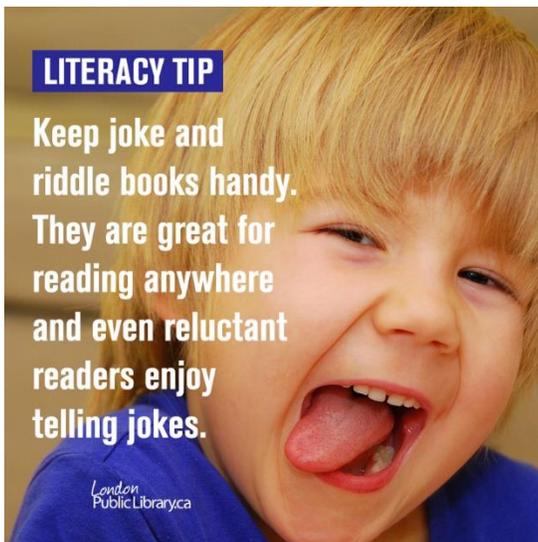
Making connections from what we read to what we experience in the world around us is an important skill for things like the Grade 10 Literacy Test.

Sites like CBC Kids News, OwlConnected, DogoNews ... provide high interest reading material that appeals to reluctant readers.

Lead by example. Let children and teens know reading is important to you.



Variety is key and reading isn't just about novels.



Reading instructions for crafts, games, science experiments, recipes or even magic tricks puts language into hands-on practice.

It's also more fun and a much better way to check comprehension than worksheets.

Reading for even 20 minutes a day can expose a child or teen to 600 000 new words in 1 year. It all adds up, whether they're reading labels, jokes, instructions, signs or books. <https://classroomessentials.scholastic.ca/s/cec-ca/en/reading-skills>

Playing games like Scrabble, Boggle or even Wordle can help improve spelling and build vocabulary.

Have fun, give them lots of choice and read aloud to your children for as long as possible!

Stay updated with all the London Public Library news, events and what to read.

Join our London Public Library for [Families Facebook Group](#) or sign up for a [newsletter](#).