

**Tip of the Month:**

**Read to Me!**




**15 minutes each and every day**—whether it be all at once, or little bits throughout the day!

"Did you know that children whose parents/caregivers talk to them more frequently by age 4 may have heard 30 million more words than children whose parents/caregivers talk to them less frequently? Reading to your child everyday will help close this word gap. Reading aloud encourages an introduction to new words, grammar and concepts that are not necessarily shared during everyday speech. It may be difficult to believe, but an average picture book may have up to 500 words, so you can imagine that these words really do add up quickly!" - Dr. S. Hutton  
[www.readaloud.org](http://www.readaloud.org)

- It's not just about reading the books, it's also about the conversations you have while reading that make a difference.
- Reading is great quality time—time that your children will remember forever!
- Ham it up when reading out loud! Use silly voices and lots of sound effects!

**15 minutes of reading per day = 27,375 minutes/ 456.25 hours!!**

Source: [www.readaloud.org](http://www.readaloud.org)

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
							<b>1</b> Take pictures of me creating something. Remember that I learn best from the process of creating something rather than the product. It helps me when you praise me for the process of what I create!
<b>2</b> Let's go tobogganing or skating today! 	<b>3</b> Put your fridge magnets in order. Sing the Alphabet Song and point to the letters while singing!	<b>4</b> Let's visit an EarlyON Child & Family Centre today! 	<b>5</b> Play: "I Hear with My Little Ear, the very first SOUND in..." (cheese, soup, toast, etc.). Talk about the sounds, and then print them & say: "we call this the letter "ess".	<b>6</b> Write my name many times, along with a variety of other names on a large piece of easel paper. Tape it to a table, the wall, or the floor. Have me find my name by circling it or colouring on top of it!	<b>7</b> Fill up the kitchen sink with soapy, sudsy water and let me play with cups, little jugs, sponges, etc. 	<b>8</b> Let's create our own binoculars and go on a letter hunt! (After you hide letters all over for me!) 	
<b>9</b> Let's make a paper airplane today! 	<b>10</b> Warm & engaging relationships, not things, build healthy brains!	<b>11</b> Tell me the first SOUND in my name, and show me how to print it. Help me say the SOUND at the same time that I print it.	<b>12</b> Help me with my numeracy development — Let's count the stairs as we climb today! 	<b>13</b> Let's visit the Library today! Ask about their program called, Every Child Ready to Read! 	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day! 	<b>15</b> Let's play snow tag! Make a 'track' in the snow, & everyone has to stay on it! 	
<b>16</b> Help me take turns by playing a game today! 	<b>17</b> FAMILY DAY! Let's do something TOGETHER today. No Screens!	<b>18</b> We don't have to always read the words in my books: Let's just talk & learn about the pictures. Teach me new words! 	<b>19</b> Help me be independent! Move things so I can reach! Coat hooks, soap, towels, etc.	<b>20</b> Sing Nursery Rhymes today. It would be great if I knew at least 10 off by heart. How many do YOU know?	<b>21</b> Spend a little extra time showing me how to dress myself (including putting on my own coat!).	<b>22</b> Show me how to cut up PAPER with scissors! Let me cut up all the grocery flyers. I can start using scissors at about age 2. 	
<b>23</b> Strive for Five turns in a conversation with me back and forth about the SAME TOPIC. Ask me questions that are not "yes" or "no" answers.	<b>24</b> Let's focus of switching sounds today by singing the song, "I Like to Eat Apples and Bananas"!	<b>25</b> Let's bring a little bit of snow inside and put it in a bowl or bin. Put my mittens on and let me explore the snow in a new way!	<b>26</b> PINK SHIRT DAY! Wear a pink shirt to show your support against bullying! <a href="https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/">https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/</a>	<b>27</b> Read me a simple story, and run your finger along the words so I can start to learn that print has meaning.	<b>28</b> Show me how to be kind — let's do something nice for someone today.	<b>29</b> What was your favourite book you've read together this month?	