Big Dreams

A FAMILY BOOK
ABOUT READING

Preschool Through Grade Three
I want my child to read.

I want my child to be a reader.
I want my child to have big dreams.
And I want those dreams to come true.
How can I help my child learn to read?
I show her that reading matters.

I help her find books she likes.
She sees me read.
We go to the library together.
We write letters to her cousins and spell out all the words.
We read before bed every night.
We talk a lot.
I talk to her about what we’re doing.
I ask about her day.
She asks me about the world.
I tell her what I know.
I help him hear the sounds in words when we talk.

I help him hear how *baby* and *bubble* start with the same sound.
I help him hear that *kitten* and *mitten* rhyme.
We sing songs. We say nursery rhymes.
He is getting ready to read.
I am helping him.
We start with ant and go all the way to zebra. ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ. We look for letters everywhere. We say their names and the sounds they make. We practice writing all the letters.

I help her learn the ABCs.
I teach my children that things have names.
I teach them the colors, the foods we eat.
I teach them the animals and the kinds of weather.
I teach them walk, run, jump, fly.
I teach them is, was, and will be.
He reads his favorite book out loud.
I read it too. We take turns.
He reads it over and over. I don’t mind.
He reads until the words sound right.
I say, “Great job reading!”
I help him understand what he reads.

Reading can help our dreams come true.

I show her that reading matters.
We spend time together.
I help him hear the sounds in words when we talk.
I help her learn the ABCs.
I help them know what words mean.
I help him practice reading.
I help him understand what he reads.
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The National Institute for Literacy, an agency in the Federal government, is authorized to help strengthen literacy across the lifespan. The Institute works to provide national leadership on literacy issues, including the improvement of reading instruction for children, youth, and adults by sharing information on scientifically based research.

**Sandra Baxter**, Director  
**Lynn Reddy**, Deputy Director

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Written by Elizabeth Goldman and C. Ralph Adler, design by Lisa T. Noonis, and production by Robert Kozman of RMC Research Corporation.

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