

Top Literacy and Numeracy Tips for Parents

Primary School

Literacy

- Try to spend at least 10 minutes a day [reading with your child](#), it will make a difference to how well they do at school. Listen to them reading and [keep reading aloud](#) together even when they are able to read for themselves to improve their fluency and vocabulary.
- Have a range of different reading material available for your child at home. Encourage your child to read from a book or comic or whatever they are interested in reading. You can also ask your child to read school notes, recipes, and instructions to you.
- Visit your local library and let your child choose books they like. Borrow books and audio books you can read and listen to together. Check out Learning Potential for tips on [picking books for your child](#).

Numeracy

- Help your child see how you use maths in everyday life. For example, explore how you use fractions in cooking; percentages while [shopping](#); distance in driving; keeping score in sports games and [telling the time](#).
- Encourage your child to practise the times tables and to solve simple maths problems in their head. Try asking them to:
 - work out how many pieces they will need to cut the birthday cake into so that everyone has a slice
 - work out the actual cost of discounted items (e.g. 25% off \$20)
 - figure out when you will arrive at a destination (e.g. “It is 4:15 pm now. It will take us 30 minutes to get home, what time will we arrive?”)If your child is struggling to work it out, suggest they show you on paper or talk you through how they are trying to work it out so you can help them.
- Maths is a learned skill that improves with practise. Talk positively about maths and encourage your child to practise as much as possible as part of a regular routine.

Check out [Learning Potential](#) for other learning activities you can try with your child.