



BØRN OG UNGE  
Aarhus Kommune

# LANGUAGE AND READING – A JOINT RESPONSIBILITY

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS -INTRODUCTORY PERIOD





**THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE AND READING**

**GO HAND IN HAND**

## DID YOU KNOW THAT

- speaking the language well is the foundation for your child's learning
- a child who has a good spoken language finds it easier to participate in games and solve conflicts
- there is a close correlation between the spoken language and reading development
- all forms of writing support the ability to read and vice versa
- your child's language will be assessed in the beginning of kindergarten in order for the lessons to be adjusted to a suitable level for the child
- the goal is for your child to be able to read and understand texts that are suitable for the child's age at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.





## **YOUR ROLE AS THE PARENT**

The school is responsible for teaching your child how to read and write, but as the parent, it is your responsibility to support your child's language and reading development.

On the next pages, you can read about what you can do to support your child in reading and writing.

If you have any questions or you are worried about your child's language and reading development, you can always seek advice and guidance from your child's teachers or day-care caregivers.

## SPEAK WITH YOUR CHILD

Your child's language develops when you speak with each other. Good conversations expand on the vocabulary among other things. When your child is learning to read and understand texts, the vocabulary is very important.

- Talk about what you experienced during the day
- Ask questions, listen to your child and be inquisitive
- Answer the questions your child asks
- Speak about what you are reading, see on TV, or what interests you
- Sing and play with rhyme and nursery rhymes
- Have your child tell you about its drawings
- Speak with your child in the language you know the best





## **WRITE WITH YOUR CHILD**

Your child's interest in letters is very important when your child is learning to read and write. No matter if your child is writing with real letters or doodles, it is important that you take it seriously. Your child is experiencing what letters and words can do.

- Give your child the access to draw and write a lot
- Write letters, postcards and little stories with your child
- Write notes and wish lists
- Support your child in writing notes or texts on drawings
- Type on the computer
- Show your child when you are writing
- Discuss how the letters have both a name (M) and a sound (mmm).

## READ TO YOUR CHILD

Most children like to have a story read to them. Positive experiences with books will give your child the desire to learn how to read. When you read aloud for your child and you discuss the contents, you are helping the development of your child's language. The child will learn many words and obtain knowledge of the written language. This is an important prerequisite for learning how to read.

- Make sure there is peace and quiet when you read together
- Look in the book together when reading
- Discuss the title of the book and pictures before you begin
- Discuss the contents when you read (for instance, what do you think will happen next?)
- Discuss words the child does not know
- Ask questions about the contents of the book and answer your child's questions
- Choose books with contents that your child finds interesting
- Choose books you know yourself already and also new books
- You can read the same book again and again
- Read a lot





## LET YOUR CHILD READ TO YOU

Your child is learning to read every time your child is experiencing written language, for instance when it recognises words on signs or wrapping. At first, your child will recognise the words. Later on, your child will try to read the new words by first reading the beginning and guessing the rest.

Learning to read requires time and contemplation. Make sure there is time and room for your child to read every day.

- Look through the book together and discuss the pictures before your child reads
- Let your child read aloud to you
- If your child stops, you can say the word
- Do not interrupt if your child reads something wrongly, only do so if it destroys the meaning
- Discuss the contents
- Choose books suitable for the child's level of reading. Your child should be able to read most words on his/her own.



**DO NOT FORGET**

That your child's language and reading abilities are important for how your child will do in all subjects in school and later on in life.

Remember that praise and encouragement are important for your child's desire to learn.

A good cooperation between the school and parents is of great significance for your child's continued language and reading development.



## INFORMATION

Your child can find fun language and reading developing games at:

[www.skole.abcleq.dk](http://www.skole.abcleq.dk)

[www.tjektasken.nu](http://www.tjektasken.nu)

[www.multidansk.dk](http://www.multidansk.dk)

[www.elevdelta.dk](http://www.elevdelta.dk)

You can find inspiration to read for and with your child at:

[www.ordet-fanger.dk](http://www.ordet-fanger.dk)

If you are having trouble reading, you can find help at:

[www.nota.nu/kaengurulommen](http://www.nota.nu/kaengurulommen)

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[www.aarhus.dk/sprogjecer](http://www.aarhus.dk/sprogjecer)



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