# 10 Tips for Reading Nonfiction with Your Child

1. **Smile! Your child is reading.**
   Give your child the right message about reading. Books can be a fun adventure that the two of you share.

2. **Explore the fact-packed, fascinating world of nonfiction.**
   Nonfiction feeds young, curious minds. Plus, there’s a nonfiction focus in the new Common Core State Standards.

3. **Let your child choose a favorite topic.**
   Choice is a powerful motivator. Let your child pick a topic that interests and inspires him or her.

4. **Ask and answer questions about the book—together.**
   Take turns asking and answering such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how. Point to evidence in the text that supports the answers.

5. **Make connections—between words, ideas, and events.**
   Look for the rich connections in nonfiction text—main ideas and details, causes and effects, and steps in a process. For example, ask your child to explain the different stages an animal goes through as it grows up.

6. **Help your child learn the “smart words” to know.**
   Use clues on the page or look in the glossary to help your child with important vocabulary. Often, a science word is defined in a surrounding sentence, or an arrow points to a picture of what it describes.

7. **Remember—pictures can say as much as words.**
   Spend extra time looking at photos, illustrations, diagrams, and maps. Often, the picture helps explain the words, or it gives extra information that enriches the text.

8. **Read about it. Write about it.**
   Build your child’s writing muscles at home. Post favorite facts on the refrigerator. Or ask your child to describe in words what he or she sees in a picture.

9. **Talk about books with your child—and make the conversations count.**
   Talking is thinking aloud. Help your child learn good habits of mind. Ask for details, opinions, and evidence.

10. **Connect nonfiction with your child’s world.**
    Nonfiction doesn’t live just between the covers of a book. Take your child to a zoo, gaze at the stars at night, or study a bug! Have fun.

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**Support Common Core learning with nonfiction!**
To meet and reinforce the Common Core State Standards, schools are making nonfiction a bigger part of the curriculum. For more on how to bring nonfiction into your child’s daily life, visit [scholastic.com/discovermore](http://scholastic.com/discovermore)