

Education News & Notes

Helping Children Learn, At Home And In School

(NAPSA)—Learning smart ways to teach your children could help improve their reading and math skills—and there are plenty of things parents can do from home, whether kids are in school or not.

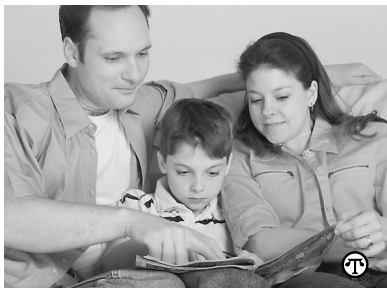
For instance, experts say that something as simple as reading aloud to a child regularly can help her build literacy skills.

“Reading aloud stimulates the brain and serves as the foundation for literacy development. Plus, studies show that the more a student reads, the more likely he or she is to stay in school and experience academic achievement,” says Dr. Mary Mokris, a reading specialist for Kumon Math and Reading Centers. The Centers, which help boost student confidence and performance by improving reading and math skills, offer these additional tips to help get kids learning:

Make Math Fun

Try playing games with children that familiarize them with numbers and math skills. For instance, you can draw a large number on a piece of paper and encourage your child to transform it into his favorite animal, food, person or imaginary character.

Older kids can be taught fractions by cutting a whole sandwich in half and then in fourths, showing the relationship between “one quarter,” “one half” and “one whole.” Then have the kids put the sandwich back together again.



Reading aloud to a child can help build his literacy skills.

Read All About It

In addition to reading aloud to children, you can get them turning pages by helping them choose the right books. For instance, if your child is interested in trains, visit the library with him and check out some train books and magazines.

You might also talk with your child about what she is reading, if she likes it and why. Foster your child’s curiosity and answer any questions to make the entire process more enjoyable.

Get Moving

Studies point to a link between movement and learning in children. Encourage your children to stay active, but also encourage them to think while they play. Role-playing games can be a great way to do just that. Kids can run around and act like a certain character as they use creative skills to decide how a character might behave in a certain situation.

For more tips, visit www.kumon.com or call (800) ABC-MATH.