

A Fresh Look at Your Home Library

The New Year is a great time to take a fresh look at your home library. Having interesting things to read at home is a great way to keep kids motivated.

Below are a few questions to ask yourself about your home library. Some simple changes on your part can help you create an amazing home library, and help your young reader start this New Year on the right reading foot!

Does your home library offer...?

- A variety of books? Kids love to read all sorts of materials, including books, magazines, newspapers, and poems. Consider including travel brochures, street maps, and programs from school plays.
- Books written at a variety of reading levels? It's important to have some books that are easy for your child to read, but it's also good to have some that can be read most successfully with an adult. This balance enables your child to feel confident with some books, and grow as a reader with others.
- Some method of organization? Sometimes grouping books by topic or series helps your child find other books they might like to read. Grouping books using book baskets also help kids find a book more easily than a crowded shelf.
- Lots of nonfiction material? Even the youngest readers love to read about real places and things. These materials often include photographs, maps and charts full of interesting information.
- Lots of choice? Find creative ways to add books to your library. Playgroup book swaps, yard sales, and used book stores all offer affordable ways to add to your collection.

Take the time this New Year to consider your home library. Your reader will be glad you did!

For a quick guide to choosing good informational books for young kids, see this article:
www.ReadingRockets.org/article/26050

And for more information on creating a literacy-rich home, visit our section on children's books:
www.ReadingRockets.org/article/c435

