

RAISING KIDS WHO READ — Tip Sheet #3

A DAY FULL OF PRINT

You are your child's primary role model. Take time to share how reading is important to you. Your support helps your child develop a lifelong skill that will help them in many ways.

Show your child how important reading is in everyday life. Talk about the many things you read during your day which helps you. For one day, have your child help you look for the many places that labels and printed words can be found. Here are some examples. Add to the list together:

- Read the labels and instructions on foods you eat.
- Read the temperature forecast for the day in the paper or on the TV screen. Talk about how that helps you plan for the day (umbrella? boots? hat and mittens? plan or cancel a picnic?)
- Share an interesting story from the newspaper, or read the scores for yesterday's sporting events, or share a comic strip you both enjoy.
- If you drive or ride public transit, notice the stop signs, street names and other words and symbols that help drivers and riders move around safely.
- Ask your child about what they read at school – ask them which doors have signs on them to tell what the room is used for. Ask where the lunch menu is posted. Ask what signs use numbers (clocks, room numbers, calendars). Ask what signs use words (room names, books, worksheets, labels on shelves.) Ask what signs use pictures. (bathroom doors, for example.)

List the ways that reading helped both of you during the day:

WHAT I READ TODAY	HOW IT HELPED ME
<i>(example: weather report)</i>	<i>Helped me decide what clothes to wear.</i>

This tip sheet is being brought to you by the YMCA. YMCAs across Canada serve over 500,000 children in various programs. YMCA Canada is a member of the Abundant Assets Alliance, a partnership of YMCA Canada, the YMCA of the USA and Search Institute, working together to help young people obtain the 40 developmental assets that they need in order to thrive. To learn more about the developmental assets and how you can help your child build these assets, visit www.abundantassets.org.

One of the developmental assets that helps young people thrive is "Reading for Pleasure." This series of tip sheets and the resource, *Raising Kids Who Read*, created by YMCA Canada, helps adults build this asset with the young people in their lives. To download copies of any of these resources, go to http://www.ymca.ca/eng_ycdaresources.htm#Res6.



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.