



Level: Preschool

Cost: None

Mess factor: None

Suggested room in the house: Everywhere!



Books can take you to anywhere you can imagine, but have you ever thought about taking a book to someplace new? This is a fun, low key activity to encourage your child to love the experience of reading!

Your child will experience:

- Reading
- Alphabetic knowledge
- Book knowledge
- Bonding with a familiar adult



Materials:

- Books
- Bag

Beginning:

Tell children about your favorite book and when it took place, or read a simple story and explain that where it takes place is called the *setting*.



Middle:

Next, say something like, "Let's get some of your favorite books and take them to a new setting!"

Let children pick where they would like to go. Here are some ideas that might help you get moving:

- Under a table
- The bathtub, during bath time
- Under a blanket
- Near a tree
- In the car (books on tape/CD are great fun)
- Someplace to read with a pet
- Somewhere new like a park, restaurant or even on the bus!



Give children the option of choosing a new place to read every time they begin a new book.

End:

End the activity when children get tired of reading or listening to you read.

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Cleanup:

Have children help you put all the books back in the book bag and then take the children to where you store the books. Sing the ABC song as you put the books away together.



Younger children:

- Toddler children may only be able to sit through a small number of books, but that is ok and totally normal for their age.
- You might want to pick one place and read everything there instead of moving. Make a decision based on how you think children will respond.

Older children:

- Have children write down all the books they read and keep a list posted on the refrigerator or in their room.
- Stop reading at the very end and let children make up a new ending.



Hints:

- As you read, move your finger across the words.
- Let children hold the book and turn the pages.
- Point out who the author and illustrator are.
- You may want to do something active before this activity so that the children can then sit down and be focused on the books. Even a simple walk around outside helps them to get the wiggles out.



More!

- Take children to the public library and help them get their very own library card.

Special Needs Accommodations:

- Read books that reflect children's special needs.
- **For children with limited vision**, use large-print books.
- **For children with limited fine-motor skills**, use board books so they can be successful turning the pages.
- **For children who find it difficult to sit still**, let them stand or move around as you read. Even better...let them act out a character in the story!

