EVERY MILE COUNTS

ROUTE TO READING

HOW TO PRACTICE READING ON THE GO

Your community is full of opportunities to practice literacy skills. Every errand, outing, and car ride is a chance for a quick tune-up on the go.



Before you leave: Write your to-do list together and sound out the words. "We're going to the /s/ /t/ /or/ — store!"



In the car: Make it a game to find letters on signs that are in your child's name. "There's an M — that's in your name! It says /mmm/."



At the store: Say what you need in syllables and let your child guess. "I need /pep/ /pers/ — what do I need?"



At the park: Call out what you see and ask your child to rhyme it. "What rhymes with swing?"



On a walk: Point out letters and words on signs, storefronts, and street names as you pass them.



At the library: Let your child choose books on topics they love. Reading what interests them builds motivation.

PRACTICE HAPPENS ANYWHERE

Talk about new words wherever you go.

Ask "What does that word mean?" then ask your child to use it in a sentence.

National Center on Improving Literacy

For more free literacy resources, visit improvingliteracy.org.

The research reported here is funded by a grant to the National Center on Improving Literacy from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, in partnership with the Office of Special Education Programs (Award #: H283D210004). The opinions or policies expressed are those of the authors and do not represent views of OESE, OSEP, or the U.S. Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by the Federal government. Copyright © 2026 National Center on Improving Literacy.