

What makes a good children's book?

It...

-  *usually has rich and expressive language*
-  *presents any moral issues in an entertaining way*
-  *often reflects children's experiences (helping their self esteem)*
-  *has an appropriate reading and interest level*
-  *gently extends vocabulary*
-  *often contains good illustrations (that add to the reading experience)*
-  *can be predictable (fun is in knowing/predicting the ending)*
-  *can be unpredictable (fun is to guess the ending)*
-  *makes children 'think' and is an active - rather than a passive - experience*
-  *can be condensed into one line easily (esp. if a story-book)*
-  *has something that makes it hard to put down*
-  *treats the reader with respect*
-  *goes somewhere narratively*
-  *is written with conviction*



HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO DO THESE THINGS?

Name _____

- 1 = REALLY KEEN TO DO THIS
- 2 = QUITE KEEN TO DO THIS
- 3 = WOULD DO IT IF NOTHING ELSE TO DO
- 4 = NOT KEEN TO DO THIS
- 5 = REALLY NOT KEEN TO DO THIS



CYCLE



PLAY WITH
ELECTRONIC
TOYS

WRITE A NUMBER BY EACH
LEISURE ACTIVITY



BAKE (A CAKE)



PLAY WITH
SCIENCE
EXPERIMENT
SETS



PLAY WITH
MAGIC SETS



RADIO CONTROLLED TOYS



WALK (A DOG)



PLAY
THE DRUMS



PLAY
BOARD GAMES



QUIZ
GAMES



SING



JIGSAW PUZZLES



PLAY WITH
CONSTRUCTION
TOYS



MODEL MAKING



WHY DO SOME THINGS
APPEAL TO YOU MORE
THAN OTHERS?



PLAY FOOTBALL

Ideas to help your child enjoy reading

-  *Create your child a comfy reading area - away from any distractions. If possible, read alongside.*
-  *Make sure there are always books about (at home, in the car).*
-  *Go out together and search libraries, book shops & charity shops for books.*
-  *Vary what is available. Ask your child to read recipes while baking, instructions while making...*
-  *Link books to family events & memories. Pull out - and discuss - old photos.*
-  *Encourage your child to read outside the home. When waiting, e.g., at the dentist or the doctor's.*
-  *Show your child your favourite books. Create collections of books you both want to treasure.*
-  *Create comics together. Model them on comics that you both have read and enjoyed.*
-  *Read song lyrics on albums. Teach each other the words of favourite songs.*
-  *Give your child lots of encouragement and praise. Reading should be an enjoyable process.*
-  *Ask your child to tell you the story so far so you can hear how much has been understood.*
-  *Find out which characters your child likes and why. Share your book memories too.*
-  *Create memorable 'silly' voices when you read together at bedtime. Take turns.*
-  *If your child becomes tired then stop and leave the reading for another time.*

