

RAISING READERS

CONTENT

Starting Your Journey	3
• Digital Services	4
• Navigating Our Collection	7
What Type of Reader is Your Child?	9
• Recommendations by Reader Type	10
Nurturing a Love for Reading in Children	12
• Dialogic Reading	14
• Library Explorer's Challenge	15
Mother Tongue Language Resources	
• Chinese	16
• Malay	17
• Tamil	18
Screen Time Tips	19



STARTING YOUR JOURNEY

Our libraries are filled with books.
Where do you start your child on their
reading journey?

With an NLB membership and myLibrary username, your child will have access to the public libraries' collections and eServices! Sign your child up for a library membership now and start exploring!

1



Download the NLB Mobile app via the App Store or the Google Play Store.

3

Enjoy these privileges:

- 1) Borrow library items at any of the libraries.
- 2) Access a wide range of eBooks and other online resources.
- 3) Check your child's account via the app.
- 4) Register for library programmes at go.gov.sg/children-pl.

2



Sign up for a myLibrary username via the app or account.nlb.gov.sg, or visit *any library to register!

*excluding Chinatown Library

Click below to learn more about:

- [Membership registration](#)
- [NLB Mobile app](#)
- [Libby](#)

DIGITAL SERVICES

Don't have time to pick up books for your children at the library?

No worries, explore a wealth of digital resources, from animated picture books to video streaming of stories, to spark your child's reading interest!

1



eBooks, Audiobooks

- Download the Libby app via the App Store or the Google Play Store.
- Log in using your myLibrary username.
- Borrow your desired eBook.

2



Resources for Students, Parents, and Educators

- Visit go.gov.sg/nlb-childrenandteens.
- Choose your preferred age group.
- Explore the various resources available, including printable activity sheets and book recommendations!

3



Learning Pathways

- Visit www.nlb.gov.sg/main/site/learnx.
- Explore our range of bite-sized resources, short videos, and programme offerings, intended to spark your child's reading appetite!





4



Animated Book Series

- Visit go.gov.sg/nlb-monstersunitedbook.
- Scroll down and click on the titles to enjoy animated Monsters United tales and print the mini books!

5



Storytime Videos

- Visit go.gov.sg/nlb-storytimeresource.
- Click on the video links to enjoy Storytime in English or Mother Tongue Languages.

6



Narrated Picture Books

- Visit go.gov.sg/nlb-ereadalongs.
- Log in using your myLibrary username.
- Click on "TumbleBook Library".



7



Video on Demand

- a. Visit go.gov.sg/nlb-avodkids.
- b. Log in using your myLibrary username.
- c. Click on "Access Video on Demand (AVOD) - Just for Kids".
- d. All videos are rated PG-13 and below!

8



Video on Demand

- a. Visit go.gov.sg/nlb-kanopykids.
- b. Follow the instructions to create a Kanopy account.
- c. All available content is rated PG-13 and below.



Free Library Programmes!

Did you know that there are programmes that you and your child can attend in our public libraries completely free of charge? Check them out and register here go.gov.sg/children-pl

NAVIGATING OUR COLLECTION

Great explorers often had maps to help them find treasure chests.

Use the NLB catalogue, catalogue.nlb.gov.sg/ to locate your desired book by its **call number**.

- **For Fiction books:** The call number usually contains the first three letters of the author's last name.
- **For Non-Fiction books:** Books with similar topics are grouped together based on the Dewey Decimal Classification system, e.g., books on technology have a call number in the 600s region!

GUIDE TO ICONS - WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Junior/Child Lending Picture Books (JP Or Child P)



Fiction



Non-Fiction

- **Recommended age: 4 – 6 years.**
- Spines are marked with a "P".
- Focused on illustrations with minimal text.

Junior/Child Lending Simple Fiction Books (JS or Child S)



- **Recommended age: 7 – 9 years.**
- Spines are marked with a "S".
- Contain short chapters with some illustrations.



Junior/Child Lending Books (J or Child)



Fiction



Non-Fiction

- **Recommended age: 10 – 12 years.**
- Spines are not marked with any icon.
- Contain mostly text with little to no illustrations.

Fairytales and Folktales Collection (FOL)



- Spines are marked with a **genie lamp** icon.

Check out the **Children's Biodiversity Library** by **Singapore Oceanarium** at NLB's Central Library. It's the first marine biodiversity-themed learning space for children at a library in Singapore!

Singapore Collection (SING)



Fiction



Non-Fiction

- Spines are marked with a **lion's head** icon.
- Books written by Singaporeans or about Singapore.

WHAT TYPE OF READER IS YOUR CHILD?

Every great adventuring party has a mix of characters with their own unique strengths and weaknesses. Use this chart to figure out what type of reader your child is, so that they can get the most out of their reading journey!



Your child enjoys reading.

Yes

No

Your child makes time to read.

Every day if possible.

If there's a good book.

Enjoys sharing about their current reads.

Has positive feelings about reading and people who enjoy reading.

Knowing words and what they mean.

Neither dislikes nor loves reading; sees it as a practical skill.

To your child, reading is....

Looking at sentences and answering teachers' questions.

May not have positive feelings about reading; sees it as a chore.

Sound out words and figuring out what they mean.

Reading is challenging: might enjoy process but struggle due to lack of skill.

Avid Reader

Your child **loves** reading and is skilled at it.

Dormant Reader

Your child is skilled in reading and enjoys it as a form of entertainment, but **may not consistently make time to read**

Uncommitted Reader

Your child views reading as a **functional skill**.

Unmotivated Reader

Your child **does not associate** reading with fun or leisure.

Unskilled Reader

Your child may need some **extra help** to figure out and make sense of the words on the page.

Check out pages 10 - 11 for more reading strategies for the various reading types.

Source: Beers, G. Kylene. "When Kids Can't Read. What Teachers Can Do: A Guide for Teachers." (6-12). Heinemann. Portsmouth. NH. 2003.



RECOMMENDATIONS BY READER TYPE

Strategies by Reader Type

Avid Reader

Your child is an independent, self-motivated reader. However, while they have a voracious reading appetite, they may tend to read selectively, **limiting themselves to a few favourite genres**.

TIPS!

- Encourage them to **broaden their reading appetite** and challenge them to **read outside their usual genres of choice**.
- Check out our curated reading lists at go.gov.sg/nlb-primary-booklists to discover something new!

Dormant Reader

Like a **dormant plant**, your child's love for reading needs some help finding the right conditions to grow in. They **may prioritise other activities** over sitting down with a good book, so **help them make reading enticing**.

TIPS!

- Introduce books on topics your child enjoys.
- Make reading a habit by having a **regular, fixed reading hour**.
- **Be a positive role model** by consistently setting time aside to sit with your child to read.

Uncommitted Reader

Also known as the '**one-book-at-a-time**' reader. If you hand them the right book, they're likely to enjoy reading it, but **will not actively search for it themselves**. They may not see reading as something that particularly interests them.

TIPS!

- Look for books that are **related to their interests** or explore our popular titles to see what your child gravitates to.
- Alternatively, **non-fiction material on current events** may be the key to engaging your child!

Unmotivated Reader

Challenge your child's association of reading with the tediousness of schoolwork by showing them how fun reading can be! Who says reading only counts when it's a long novel?

TIPS!

- **Alternative formats** like age-appropriate comics and magazines are compelling reading materials, and may be a more appealing option that your child is likely to pick up again.
- Seek out materials **in fun, digestible formats that appeal to your child's interests**, and your child should be reading in no time!

Unskilled Reader

Your child may have negative feelings towards reading, simply because it is **difficult** for them.

TIPS!

- Try using **wordless picture books** to create stories with your child - they may not recognise all the words, but they will probably still enjoy a good story!
- Encourage them to articulate their thoughts with **guided dialogic reading**. Check out page 14 for tips on dialogic reading.
- Remember to also emphasise the **socio-emotional benefits** of reading as well. The aim is to make reading a positive and enjoyable habit!



NURTURING A LOVE FOR READING



In the quest to inspire a genuine love for reading in your child, certain practical strategies can make a significant impact. Try using the strategies listed below!

Remember, the journey towards becoming a lifelong reader is unique to each child, and the delight of exploring the world through books is a timeless, enduring treasure.

1

Lead by Example

When you demonstrate a passion for reading, you inspire your child and help them understand that reading is both enjoyable and meaningful.

2

Empower Through Choice

Engage your child as they choose their own reads. Not only will this increase their involvement, it will also nurture a feeling of ownership in their reading adventure.

3

Cultivate a Reading-Friendly Space

Dedicate some space within your home to be your child's very own reading corner. A well-lit and comfortable space with a variety of books can make reading a delightful and welcoming experience.



4

Hold Interactive Discussions

Participate in discussions about your child's reads. You can ask open-ended questions or prompt them to share things they enjoyed about the book. These conversations transform reading into a social and pleasurable activity. Refer to the next page find out more about this practice of dialogic reading!

5

Celebrate Small Wins

Take the time to appreciate and rejoice in small triumphs, whether it's finishing a demanding book or expressing enthusiasm about a newfound literary gem.



SOURCE:

Scholastic. (n.d.). Raise a Reader Blog. Scholastic Parents.

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog.html>.

DIALOGIC READING

Having a conversation while reading with your child is also known as **dialogic reading**. It encourages different ways of thinking, sharpens the flow of logic in your child's mind, and trains their language skills.

Try using the PEER sequence:
Prompt, Evaluate, Expand and Repeat.

Prompt your child to say something about the book:

What do you see on this page?

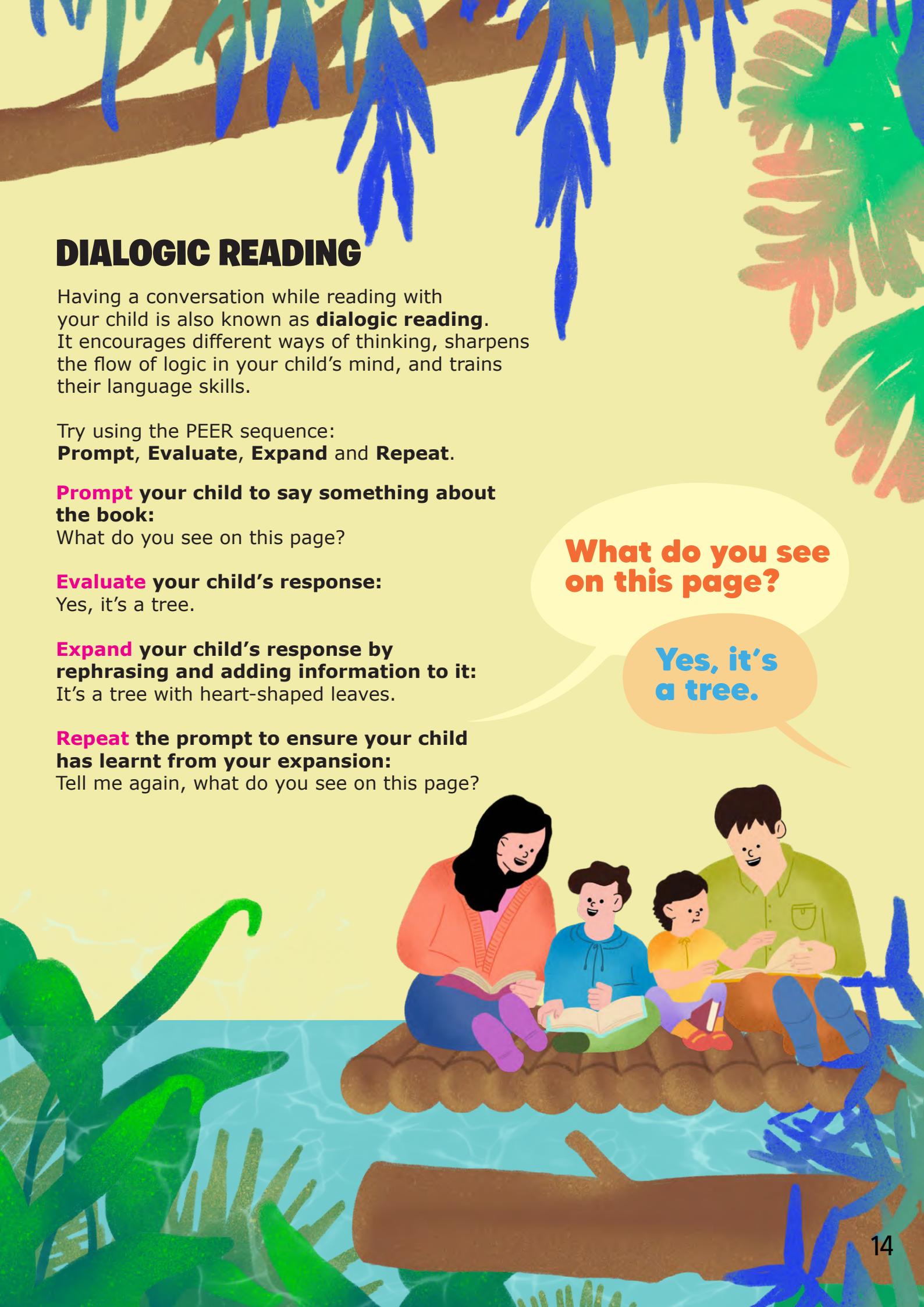
What do you see on this page?

Evaluate your child's response:
Yes, it's a tree.

Yes, it's a tree.

Expand your child's response by rephrasing and adding information to it:
It's a tree with heart-shaped leaves.

Repeat the prompt to ensure your child has learnt from your expansion:
Tell me again, what do you see on this page?



LIBRARY EXPLORER'S CHALLENGE!

Join the library explorer's challenge with your child, using our printable game mat! How quickly can you make it to the finish line?

Borrow two books from book displays!



Search for a non-fiction book in the NLB catalogue.

Borrow a book on a new hobby.

Write a poem or short story inspired by the library.

Attend a programme e.g., Storytelling session.

Read a book from the 'Junior Singapore' collection!



Write a review of your favourite book!

Read a book that has been adapted into a movie.

Interact with a TumbleBooks station or read the eBooks online!

Borrow two eBooks using the NLB Mobile app.

Draw your favourite book character!

Discover a fun fact about an author.

Learn to make your own bookmark!

Create a list of books to read next.

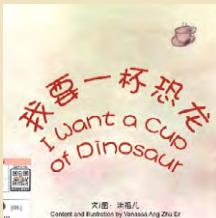
Draw a map of your favourite fictional world.

Write a letter to a character from your favourite book.



MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE RESOURCES - CHINESE

Book Recommendations



Title: **我要一杯恐龙**
(I Want a Cup of Dinosaur)
Author: 洪祖儿
Translator: 张凌颖
Call Number: J SING AZE-[BIL]



Title: **小小武术家 (The Young Martial Artist)**
Author: 陈睿翰
Illustrator: 蒋富翔
Call Number: J SING TNR-[BIL]



Title: **奇妙的篮子 (The Incredible Basket)**
Author: 郭宏驯
Call Number: J SING GHX

(This title is available as an eBook.)

The English language version of "The Incredible Basket" is also available at the public libraries.

Reading Tips

Make reading regular and enjoyable for you and your child by:

- Setting aside 5 - 10 minutes daily to read a Chinese book together.
- Consider selecting levelled/graded readers or books with Hanyu Pinyin to facilitate and motivate your child's reading progress.
- With consistent practice, your child's reading proficiency will improve, leading to greater ease and enjoyment in reading.

For programmes conducted in Chinese, visit go.gov.sg/nlb-children-cl.



Book recommendations and reading tips by Jing Ru, Librarian (Chinese Language)

MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE RESOURCES - MALAY

Book Recommendations



Title: **Gajah dan Pokok**

Author: Jin Pyn Lee

Call Number: J SING JIN

(This title is available as an eBook.)



Title: **Burung Yang Takutkan Ketinggian**

Author: Farah Bagharib-Kaltz

Call Number: J SING BAG

(This title is available as an eBook.)



Title: **Budak Karung Guni**

Author: Lorraine Tan

Call Number: J SING TAN

(This title is available as an eBook.)

Reading Tips

- Start off with wordless books, and talk to your child as you read together.
- Use descriptive words to build your child's vocabulary.
- Alternate between using words and actions and encourage your child to respond.
- Pay close attention to what your child is communicating to you.

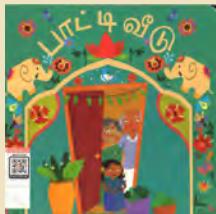
For programmes conducted in Malay, visit go.gov.sg/nlb-children-ml.



Book recommendations and reading tips by Fitri, Librarian (Malay Language)

MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE RESOURCE - TAMIL

Book Recommendations



Title: பாட்டி வீடு
Author: வனிதா வீராசாமி
Call Number: JP Tamil VAN



Title: பச்சைக்கிளி முத்துச்சரம்
Author: பிரேமா கோவிந்த்
Call Number: J SING Tamil PRE

Reading Tips

To foster fluent reading and to promote lifelong reading:

- Introduce the Tamil letters during your child's early years.
- Try activities focused on letter identification and sensory writing.
- By recognising and accurately pronouncing individual letters, children can develop the foundational skills needed to effortlessly combine letters and form words.

For programmes conducted in Tamil, visit go.gov.sg/nlb-children-tl.



Book recommendations and reading tips by Renu, Librarian (Tamil Language)

SCREEN TIME TIPS

With easier access to digital resources and devices, don't forget to care for your little explorer's eyes! Here are some tips on how to manage screen use in this digital age.

TYPES OF SCREEN USE

Active Screen Use

Refers to cognitively and/or physically engaging in a **screen-based activity**.
E.g., completing homework on a computer, following a craft tutorial online.

Passive Screen Use

Refers to the viewing and receiving of information through screens **without interaction/thinking**.
E.g., watching cartoons on TV.

Co-viewing Screen Use

The practice of an adult watching media with a child and engaging in **active discussions** relating to what is happening on screen.

Background Screen Use

Having **devices/TV turned on in the background** even when a child is not watching.



GUIDELINES

- Manage screen time based on your child's individual needs.
- Be a role model for positive behaviour & screen-use habits!
- Get familiar with strategies on how to safeguard your children from possible harmful online influences.
- Be present when children are using their devices; have open conversations about their online activities and risks.



AVOID

- Passive and background screen use.
- Screen use during mealtimes.
- Screen use 1 hour before bedtime.



SOURCE:

HealthHub. (2023, November 22). Child in the Sixth Year: Healthy Screen Habits. HealthHub.
<https://www.healthhub.sg/live-healthy/1990/child-sixth-year-healthy-screen-habits>.

Ministry of Health, Singapore. (2023, December 7). Guidance on Screen Use in Children. Ministry of Health, Singapore.
<https://www.moh.gov.sg/resources-statistics/educational-resources/guidance-on-screen-use-in-children>.



**May you and your child
have a fulfilling reading
adventure ahead!**

**Visit nlb.gov.sg for more
information on our public
libraries and resources.**

© National Library Board, Singapore (NLB).

The NLB disclaims all liability and responsibility for any loss or damage caused to any person due to the materials contained herein. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded, or otherwise, without prior written permission of the NLB.

Book covers are copyright of the respective publishers.

Information is correct as of November 2024.

