



# HELP YOUR CHILDREN GET READY TO READ BY ASKING QUESTIONS



**TRY THIS  
AT HOME**

- Asking open-ended questions helps your children learn new words, use their problem-solving skills, and learn to express themselves.
- Open-ended questions are questions that can't be answered with one word like "yes" or "no." They are answered with a sentence or two.

## Turn simple questions into open-ended questions.

Instead of these simple questions,	try these open-ended questions.
Did you like the story?	What was your favorite part of the story? Why did you like that part? How did the story make you feel? Which parts made you feel that way?
Do you like apples?	Why do you like apples? Tell me what you know about how apples grow.

## Ask a handful of open-ended questions each day.

- Ask them anytime: while reading, talking about what happened during the day, or making dinner together.

## Listening to what your children say is just as important as asking questions. After asking a question:

- - give your children time to think of an answer,
  - let them answer without interrupting, and
  - respond to their answer and keep the conversation going until they show you they are ready to move on.



## Gowa: Teachable Moments for Apache Children

This program provides free early literacy materials, activities, and events to San Carlos Apache families with children ages 0 – 6.

Learn more: <https://extension.arizona.edu/gowa> or email [GowaTeachableMoments@arizona.edu](mailto:GowaTeachableMoments@arizona.edu)

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