

LAY THE FOUNDATION AT HOME

Quality time spent reading with your child increases reading interest. Here are a few helpful tips:

- Discuss the book, characters and illustrations with the child.
- Build anticipation and curiosity by asking questions concerning the story and the pictures.
- Draw attention to the text, e.g. following the text with your finger.
- Encourage the child to partake, e.g. repetition of words or phrases.
- Keep books visible at home.
- Teach the child verses and poems.
- Encourage the child to „pretendread“ and „pretendwrite“ using their own words and writing.
- Tell the child about the books you read in your own pastime.

SEE YOU AT THE LIBRARY!

Everyone under the age of 18 gets a library card free of charge at the library of Hafnarfjörður.

Enjoy a family trip to the library where you will find a wide variety of reading material for children, e.g. magazines, picture books, easy to read books, verses and poetry, fairy tales, non-fiction books and audiobooks



This brochure is based on a brochure issued by the Association of Library Directors.

Reading is the game of life

The importance of reading
for children



Library of Hafnarfjörður
Fjörður & Sólvangur health clinics
Hafnarfjörður Education and Leisure Department



READING: LIFE'S PASTIME

Hafnarfjörður's „Reading: Life's pastime“ is a social project where pre- and elementary schools, alongside parents and various public institutions, work together to improve language development and literacy among children.

The purpose of this project is to improve children's ability to read, practically or for enjoyment, after finishing elementary school.

Criteria for the goals desired are set. Emphasis is on every student getting suitable education.

Pre- and elementary school teachers pick effective teaching methods that develops literacy to achieve the goals set.

READING FOR CHILDREN ...

- Boosts language development
- Expands vocabulary
- Strengthens reading comprehension
- Stimulates imagination
- Sparks curiosity
- Increases reading interest
- Improves concentration
- Promotes well-being
- Builds up confidence
- Is enlightening

Read....

...IN THE GARDEN
...by the window ...down by the sea
...with grandma ...on the bus
...with a pet ...UNDER THE COVERS ...in the sofa
...at night ...WITH A FLASHLIGHT
...on a mountain

IMPORTANCE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

The foundation for reading comprehension is set in infancy, as early as the acquisition of native language starts.

As their child's first teacher it is the parents' responsibility to establish the adoption of their native language.

Researches show that reading for children from infancy boosts language development and expands vocabulary, thus increasing their chances of educational success later in life.

It is, therefore, important for parents to read daily, from infancy, to their children. Further, it is valuable to read to them, even after they have started reading by themselves.