

## Learning on the Go—Literacy Tips for Young Children

Mahatma Gandhi once said, “There is more to life than increasing its speed.” As parents, our lives are often hectic. Fortunately, parents of a young child have someone who can teach them just how important it is to “stop and smell the roses.” To young children, the world is a museum with SO much to see and learn. So take time with your child to blow on a dandelion seed head and marvel at the fact that each little seed has its own parachute to fly through the air. Spend some time together at the river learning that rocks sink in water but sticks float. Even the simplest activities can be made into fun ways to help your child learn about her world!

Reading books together can also help you slow down for a little while every day. Books are a great way to expand your child’s horizons. They can take you anywhere—to another continent where they have zebras and lions, or to a make-believe place where all the raindrops are lemon drops.

Helping your child learn about the world prepares your child for school. Research has shown that the more background knowledge a child has, the more likely he will be to succeed in school. And the more experience he has with books, the easier it will be to learn to read.