



with Gail Boushey

A video series to teach your child how to read by themselves for 30 minutes at a time.

Right now, people at home are teachers too: mothers, fathers, grandparents, other relatives—even siblings. We are here to help you.

With so many children away from school, I feel compelled to share with you how to help your child read at home for 20 to 30 minutes at a time. If your child is already engaged in reading for 30–60 minutes at a time, keep up whatever you are doing!

I am a teacher, co-creator of Daily 5, and author of the book *The Daily 5, Fostering Literacy Independence in the Elementary Grades*.

Teachers around the world, and maybe even your child's teacher, use the practices outlined in the book to successfully teach your children how to be more engaged when reading, and build their attention span for reading from 20 to 40 minutes at a time while they're in school.

You may feel overwhelmed with your children out of school, as you create and re-create a schedule for your whole family and figure out just what is essential for your children. You may be thinking, When will this ever end? Here's the thing: in the history of the world, this will end, but the question is . . . what can you and your children do to get the most out of this time?

The answer is . . . **reading!**

**Reading is the most accessible and beneficial learning activity you can provide.** Make sure your children are engaged and read for a long time each day.

Imagine this for a moment: your children are sitting quietly, holding a book, and enjoying reading all by themselves for 30 minutes.

They are quiet, the house is calm, you are calm, and everyone is reading.

Sound too good to be true? It isn't.

Here is why I know it can be done: your children do this at school every day and they can do it at home too. And if they aren't, I can help.

I've recorded videos on an iPhone from my home. On each video, I teach and review the behaviors of reading with your children—the same behaviors they practice in school. Your children and I will read for the amount of time in the video title. I'll introduce the behaviors, and then, as the video plays, I will read to myself while your children read to themselves. At the end of the time, I will review their reading behaviors, talk about increasing their reading stamina, and invite them to join me again in another session. You choose the amount of time you believe your child can engage in reading and tell them to read with me.

During that time, you will either read, too, or do your own work. Whatever you are doing, it should be quiet and focused, so that your children aren't distracted.

Please feel free to share this video with others, so children and families you know will have the opportunity to develop the skills of reading engagement.

When this pandemic has passed and we are all back at school and work, your children will have the skills and ability to be engaged in reading for long periods of time wherever they are, whether in the evening, on the weekend, or during the summer.

Finally, when we look back on this unprecedented time, we just may hear ourselves say, "That was when our children learned how to read for extended periods of time at home." Priceless.

Ready to get started?

Gather your children and some books to read or a device to read on, and start the video, titled "Read for 1 minute."

Let's do this together.



#### Read at Home Links

[Introduction Page for Parents](#)

[Video Series Page for Students](#)