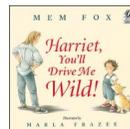
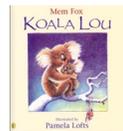
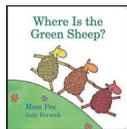
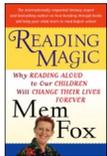


Mem Fox's Ten read-aloud commandments

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again and always read in the same 'tune' for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child's name and yours, remembering that it's never work, it's always a fabulous game.
9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.
10. Read aloud every day because you just love being with your child, not because it's the right thing to do. This is as important for fathers as it is for mothers!



<http://memfox.com/>

Things to do at home to help your

Find 3D and 2D shapes around your house.

Play a dice game like snakes and ladders

Tell your family all the things you did at school today.

or Find all the things in your room that are purple, blue green

Act out a story. Make a character from the book

Write a letter to post or make a card for someone

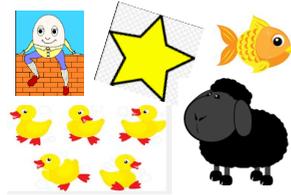
Find all the things in the pantry that start with "s" or another sound.

Find different ways to sort the objects like your toys. Things with wheels or different colours

Help with the shopping by finding some items on the shelf, by looking at the picture or letters.

Jo-Anne Lenan, one of our most experienced early childhood teachers, was asked to nominate the top 10 nursery rhymes that parents could teach their child prior to school start. These will help to develop, rhyme, rhythm, counting skills, vocabulary and speech. You can use actions to accompany the verse and have fun. Here is her list:

- 1) *Humpty Dumpty*
- 2) *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*
- 3) *Baa Baa Black Sheep*
- 4) *1,2,3,4,5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive*
- 5) *5 Little Ducks*
- 6) *Jack and Jill*
- 7) *Hickory Dickory Dock*
- 8) *Old Macdonald Had a Farm*
- 9) *Hey Diddle Diddle*
- 10) *I'm a Little Teapot.*



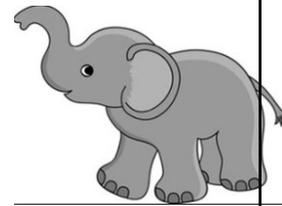
Ten little gentlemen standing in a row,
Bow, down gentlemen, bow down low,
Walk, little gentlemen, walk across the floor,
But please little gentlemen, don't forget to shut the door!



Monkey, monkey in a tree,
I see you and you see me!
Hang by your fingers and
hang by your toes,
But don't fall down on
your little pink nose!



An elephant walks like this and that,
He's terribly big,
And he's terribly fat.
He has no fingers,
He has no toes.
But goodness gracious what a nose!



Tall shops in the town,
Lifts going up and down,
Doors swinging round about,
People walking in and out.



Here are the bee hives,
Where are the bees?
Hidden away where nobody sees.
Soon they'll come creeping out of the hives,
One, two, three, four, five, buzz-zz



Here are Grandma's glasses,
Here is Grandma's hat,
This is the way she folds her hands
And lays them in her lap.
Here are Grandad's glasses,
Here is Grandad's hat,
This is the way he folds his arms
And has a little nap.

