

The 10-Minute Reading Routine

The exact structure I recommend for reading together at home.

Ten focused minutes every day beats an hour once a week. Same time, same cozy spot, every day.

The routine

When	What you do
Minute 1-2 Warm up	Reread something easy from yesterday. Confidence first — always start with a win.
Minute 3-4 Sound practice	Ten words from your child's blending list, or one quick listening game.
Minute 5-8 Read together	Your child reads. You read every other page if the book is a stretch. Echo read any tricky sentence.
Minute 9 Talk about it	One question: "What happened?" or "What do you think happens next?"
Minute 10 Celebrate	Name one specific thing they did well: "You fixed that word all by yourself."

Rules that keep it working

- Stop at 10 minutes even if it's going well. Leave them wanting more.
- Wait 5 full seconds before helping with a hard word.
- If your child is frustrated, you read and they listen. That day still counts.
- Never make reading a punishment or a chore that must be finished.
- Let them pick the book at least three nights a week.

Two-week tracker

Day	Done	Notes
1	☐	Book / activity: _____
2	☐	Book / activity: _____
3	☐	Book / activity: _____

Day	Done	Notes
4	☐	Book / activity: _____
5	☐	Book / activity: _____
6	☐	Book / activity: _____
7	☐	Book / activity: _____
8	☐	Book / activity: _____
9	☐	Book / activity: _____
10	☐	Book / activity: _____
11	☐	Book / activity: _____
12	☐	Book / activity: _____
13	☐	Book / activity: _____
14	☐	Book / activity: _____