



Welcome December!

The best month of all for family affection
Getting is good, but nothing is as great as giving.

Do you know that giving doesn't have to cost a penny?

Here is a sample list.

1. Mom - I will give you the biggest hug possible.
2. Dad - I will help you with your project.
3. Brother Aden - I will show you how to read.
4. Sister Heidi - I will teach you all the numbers.
5. Dog Fluffy - I will feed you everyday.

Here is another new twist. If the holiday is **for giving**, it must also
be **forgiving**.

1. **Mom**, Forgive me for not listening.
2. **Dad**, Forgive me for using my iPad too much.
3. **Aden**, Forgive me for taking your markers.
4. **Heidi**, Forgive me for using up your stickers.
5. **Fluffy**, Forgive me for not playing with you.

The holiday is for **giving** and for **getting**.

Give heart and soul to what you do

and

Get you own special joy.

1. **Give** all the love you can.
2. **Get** whatever is meant to be.

Child Tip

**Be the best you you can everyday. No one can be better at
being you than you.**

Parent Tip

Help your child work on his or her skills and abilities.

They build confidence.

From “15 Parenting Musts” on www.earlychildhoodnews.net

Dr. Sally’s Guide to Child Success

By Building Inner Strength

Your Parent Input is Everything

Since we are all a product of our experiences, we should make them as good as possible.

Every book that you read to your child, every song that you sing, every attentive conversation that you share makes a difference and taken together, the positive impact of those moments is enormous.

If your children are well-developed by the time they are three, they will automatically be predictive of being successful in school at age six.

New reading tip!

Talk and explain anything and everything to your child **as much as you can**. That is what advances receptive **understanding** and expressive **talking** abilities—both prerequisites for **learning to read**.



Collect and use all past reading tips

Tip One - Read to your child often to give the finest preparation for learning to read. Rhythm, vocabulary, and feelings all play a role in this activity, and it is never too early to start.

Tip Two - Build your connection before starting any reading session. Getting your child's attention is the key. Books with simple sentences and inviting pictures are always appropriate.

Tip Three - Point to familiar words as you say them. This is a perfect way to help your child connect print with what you read out loud.

Tip Four - Set up a reading routine to create an enjoyable part of everyday. Before bed is a natural time to read together, but you may also want to add on another opportunity during the day when you both are less tired and more relaxed.

Tip Five - HOP JUMP CLAP

Write each word on a 3' x 5' index card. Then have fun with your homemade reading game. Take turns with your child picking a word card and then acting out what it says. The repetition of seeing the words is for

reading vocabulary building, and the repeated actions will improve motor development.

Tip Six - Change “reading to” your child to “reading with.” Familiar books hold the key for this activity. Encourage your little one to fill in words you think he or she is likely to know. Just the participation will increase for your child a love of books and reading.

Tip Seven - Turn reading time into teaching time. It is a big world out there with lots to learn. Find books about a topic your child likes—planes, trains, cars, boats, professions of all kinds, the seasons and much more. Then enjoy sharing your knowledge. Learning is great fun and really will make you smile.

Tip Eight - Record-a-story. Your child will especially love having a story recorded by you. It will be great to listen to together while you are at home and even better for times when you are away. After hearing many repetitions of the story, while looking at the print at the same time, he or she may begin to recognize some of the words.

Tip Nine - “High quality and high quantity language *play the biggest role.*” It is the **R, S, & T of Parenting** the holds the key.—
Read, Sing, and Talk to your child as much as you can.

