

# Welcome July!



## The Month of Freedom

### READING TIP

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.

Collect and use all past tips too.

**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.

With every snap, crackle and pop of any fireworks display out

jumps the word **Free!**

**Here now is the parenting way to look at this concept.**

It encompasses a lot of sound advice.

**F** is for **Fair, Firm** and **Positive**

**R** is for **Responsive**

**E** is for an **Enriched Learning Environment**

**E** is for an **Enriched Language Environment**

These four principles together will help you a lot to have a smooth-running household, and, of course, there is nothing more freeing than that.

Setting boundaries and giving guidance and support is not so easy.

To be **Fair**, explain to your child what you expect.

To be **Firm**, say what you mean and mean what you say.

To be **Positive**, give the great big message that all you do is for the benefit of your child. Then the rest will follow suit.

My hope is that these four principles of parenting are just what you need to be



prepared for some of the ups and downs along the road. As life goes on, children grow, activities change, and families keep evolving in all kinds of ways. These tools of prevention are all designed to keep you **free** from as many difficulties as possible. How special is that!