

## Troubleshooting - Q & A

Q / Situation: My child doesn't even want to sit with me. What can I do?

A: Okay there's a few things to try here. We suggest some combination of rewards like, "*This will only take 5 minutes. Then you and I will play your favorite game.*" And, be sure to follow through. Note follow-through should be meaningful (not just one minute of play for example). Also, try to avoid making the reward a food reward.

Q: My child would rather focus on the pictures rather than the letters. What should I do?

A: It's okay! That they want to focus at all - means you've won more than half the battle here. It means they are, happily, sitting with you and bonding with you. And, it means you have their attention! This is the most important piece. Go with it! Go ahead and focus on some of the pictures for a bit. Then squeeze in a letter. If it was a letter they already knew, after some more pics, do another letter. Focus should be on keeping a good rapport\* with them so you can continue with them the next day.

\*rapport: a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well.

Q: What if my child doesn't seem to be picking it up right away?

A: There are a few things here. First fear not. We call this the first chapter hump. Learning to read for them, is akin to us adults learning a new language. Be patient. And, give lots of praise for any and all progress made. For one, be sure to say / demonstrate the individual letters / letter-sounds, and if in the reading book, the combined word. Also be sure to review each and every day. Repetition can be VERY key here.

For any other questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out:

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