# HELP YOUR CHILDREN GET READY TO READ BY ASKING QUESTIONS



- Asking open-ended questions helps your children learn new words, use their problem-solving skills, and learn to express themselves.
- Open-ended questions are questions that can't be answered with one word like "yes" or "no." They are answered with a sentence or two.

### Turn simple questions into open-ended questions.

| Instead of these simple questions, | try these open-ended questions.  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Did you like the story?            | What was your favorite part of the story? Why did you like that part? How did the story make you feel? Which parts made you feel that way? |
| Do you like apples?                | Why do you like apples? Tell me what you know about how apples grow.   |

## Ask a handful of open-ended questions each day.

Ask them anytime: while reading, talking about what happened during the day, or making dinner together.

# Listening to what your children say is just as important as asking questions. After asking a question:

- o give your children time to think of an answer,
- o let them answer without interrupting, and
- o respond to their answer and keep the conversation going until they show you they are ready to move on.



#### Gowa: Teachable Moments for Apache Children

children ages 0 – 6.

Learn more: https://extension.arizona.edu/gowa or email GowaTeachableMoments@arizona.edu

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