



Sing, Dance, Act, Read!

All children like to be entertained, and many are interested in the entertainment industry—whether it's music, theater, dance, movies, books or all of the above. One of the best ways to encourage children to read is to introduce them to information that interests them. The entertainment section in your newspaper is full of juicy tidbits and useful facts, from celebrity gossip to movie times.


Try some of these fun activities with your child to engage him in reading.

 **Act It Out.** The entertainment section often includes reviews of the latest movies, video releases, live performances and books. Read a review out loud together. Read it again with lots of dramatic flair, emphasizing the reviewer's point of view. Changing your vocal inflections helps build fluency and makes reading aloud more fun.



 **Be the Critic.** Invite your child to review a new movie, television show, music CD or book. Ask him what he liked or didn't like about it. Did it make him sad or happy? Did it make him laugh or leave him in breathless suspense? Now look for a review of that same item in the newspaper or on the Internet and let him compare his opinion to the professional critic's review. Do they agree? Some newspapers even publish kids' reviews. Children love to see their words in print!



 **What's It All About?** Look through the entertainment section together for advertisements of movies and books. Ask your child what she thinks the movie or book is about based on the title and the style of the ad. What type or genre does she think the movie or book falls into—comedy, drama, romance, thriller? Now read a description of the movie or book together to see if your child's predictions about the story and style agree. Making predictions is a good pre-reading strategy. It helps kids think about what they are about to read and makes the process of reading more meaningful.

