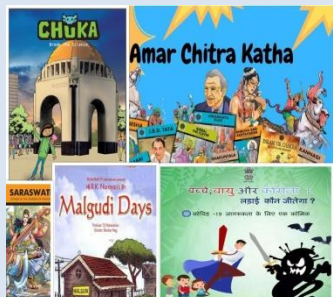


CHILDLINE NEWSLETTER



02nd May 2020

How to inculcate the habit of reading among children during lockdown?



We have often heard parents complaining about how their children spend most of their free time playing games on smartphones, laptops or gaming consoles. They rarely read a book or a newspaper or do something constructive. Since our nation is locked down due to the COVID-19 and most outdoor activities have stopped, parents can encourage their children to develop reading habit.

Getting hard copies of books may not be possible due to the lockdown. However, there are plenty of e-books available online in both English and regional languages for free. These books are easily available to parents and children Pan-India. Indian authored e-books such as [Amar Chitra Katha](#) and [Malgudi Days](#) can truly stimulate young minds from both rural and urban India. Here are few ways in which you can inculcate the habit of reading in your young one.

Daily reading time

In order to motivate children to read, you can set aside some reading time in their daily routine. In rural areas, parents can encourage their children to visit their nearest Common Service Centers (CSC) to access these e-learning books. Under the Pradhan Mantri Digital Saksharta Abiyan, Government has empowered the CSCs with e-learning books that can be accessed easily by children.

Let them pick their favorite book

Parents should guide their children on the choices of books to read. Let your young ones choose their favorite subject so that they don't get bored of reading. If you enforce your choice of topics on them they are most likely to get disinterested in reading.

One book at a time

Allow your child to read at a pace he or she is comfortable with. It is best not to set targets or pressurize them to finish several books at a go. If you force them to read fast or many books at a stretch then your child may just skim through the pages without really understanding the context or experiencing the true joy of reading a book.

A good book can be the best portable friend of children during this time. It has the potential to nurture a young mind and widen their sphere of experience without moving an inch. CHILDLINE 1098 has uploaded several e-books and comics on their website for children in English as well as in regional languages. Here are few interesting e-book links for children [Bacche, Vayu Aur Corona \(Hindi\)](#), [Chuka](#) [Break the silence](#).



Resources and information on Covid-19

<https://www.childlineindia.org/a/covid19>

Donate to CHILDLINE and support our COVID-19 relief efforts.

https://www.childlineindia.org/a/fundraiser_campaign/168477

