

GETTING KIDS DRAWN IN!

Tips for Parents and Caregivers

- 1** Want to build more confidence in reading through the power of music? Watch a Drawn In episode with captions enabled. Read and sing along to the opening theme song. To further build on this fun exercise, choose one of the words from the lyrics to focus on as the word of the week.
- 2** Read pages from the Drawn In comic book in parts. Set aside 10-15 minutes of reading together before dinner or before bedtime.
- 3** Looking for ways to engage in fun dinner time conversations? Share your favorite characters from Drawn In. Ask kids things like: If you could have one or two superpowers what would they be? What would it feel like to be one of the characters?
- 4** Looking for ways to help an early reader break down sentences into individual words? Practice identifying the words in a sentence by saying a sentence aloud, emphasizing each individual word. Afterwards, have kids count the number of words in the sentence.
- 5** What are some ways grownups can help kids sound out words for fun? Your tone, pronunciation, and the emphasis that you put into words can help children associate individual sounds with the letters. It's good to let them hear you read aloud slowly while watching your finger or a ruler to identify each sound. You could highlight the words as well.
- 6** Want to strengthen vocabulary recognition skills? Play the game "I Spy." Pick out a word that you see and don't share what word you picked. The child will have to guess what you see. No cheating.
- 7** Looking for ways to teach kids about "turn taking" when reading? Use visual cues like pointing or passing a physical item to indicate whose turn it is. For some kids with autism or hyperlexia, visual cues are especially important.
- 8** Let's talk about the story. Talk with kids about each comic book you've read together. This is the perfect way to improve their comprehension skills and increase their enjoyment of reading.
- 9** Who doesn't like to act out a superhero character? By acting out the story, you can help kids bring their storytelling skills to life. This can increase the excitement for reading using their imagination. Afterwards, kids could write or draw a picture of what they read, act out that scene, or make up an alternate ending.
- 10** Write and illustrate your own comic book inspired by Drawn In. This is the perfect time to practice reading, writing, and art skills together! Give kids blank pieces of paper, a notebook, or a journal, along with crayons, and pencils and have them create their own story. They could also recreate their favorite scene from the comic.

