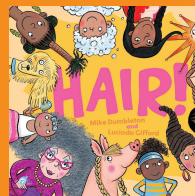


Hair!

Mike Dumbleton and Lucinda Gifford



Celebrating diversity through different hairstyles

Reading Hair! with your child is a special way to connect through shared laughter, conversation, and closeness. The fun and playful story celebrates diversity by showing many different hairstyles, helping children feel seen and valued.

As you read together, it opens opportunities to talk about differences, self-expression, and acceptance in a gentle, positive way. This shared reading experience strengthens your bond while supporting your child's confidence and understanding of the world.

Connecting with your child through reading

Connecting through reading begins by finding a calm and comfortable space where you and your child can focus and relax together. Encouraging your child to hold the book and predict what they might find builds curiosity and a sense of involvement. As you read, pointing to the words and then pausing to show the illustrations helps your child link language with meaning. This shared approach supports understanding, engagement, and a warm, connected reading experience.



Repetition supports learning

Re-engage with the story by exploring the many hair colours and styles shown throughout the book. As you re-read, pause and ask your child if they know anyone with a similar hairstyle to help them make personal connections. This encourages conversation and curiosity.

Building memory

Reviewing something you have read helps strengthen memory by encouraging the brain to recall and organise information. Talking about or revisiting the content reinforces understanding and makes it easier to remember later.



Written by 360 Early Education

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Serve-Return-Rally-Learn

Reading a book together is an opportunity to **Serve-Return-Rally** with your child.
Let's explore a possible **Serve-Return-Rally** from the book, *"Hair."*



Serve

on *"hair tied up... or hanging down."*

[adult bends down and hair touches ground - pauses, looks and smiles at child]

[child giggles and copies adult]



Return



Rally

[adult] **"Look! We're both hanging down. My hair is touching the ground, it's long. Your hair is not, it's short."** [pause]

[child] **"Hair short."** [touching own hair]

[adult] **"Yes, your hair is short. Who else has short hair?"**

The more rallies you share, the more learning moments you create together.



Learn



Did you know?

When you pause you create space for your child to serve or return. Pauses help to slow down the interaction, and provide time for your child to process, think and take a turn.