

reading up to 50 words a day.

5. HE ALSO RECEIVED JESUS DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL! This was certainly an answer to our prayers. He took it very seriously when we would pray together and ask the Lord to continue to bless his learning to read. He knew it made us and Jesus very happy.

6. SOON I HAD TO MAKE BOOKS FOR DAVIDITO BECAUSE I HAD NOT UP TO THIS TIME LOCATED ENGLISH READERS in the Portuguese stores near where we were living. It was very important to put his reading vocabulary into use so that he would somehow be able to review the words and associate them with pictures.

7. AT THIS TIME HE WOULD SOMETIMES SEE A FAMILIAR WORD IN PRINT IN A BOOK but not be able to read it if it used the typewriter type "a" or "g", or the block "a" and the curly "g", as in this type. So we began to familiarise him with this type of lettering so that he would not be confused by it.

8. HE LOVED TO READ LICENSE PLATE NUMBERS AND LETTERS individually and would read aloud the political party initials plastered all over the walls.

9. THE A-B-C FOR JESUS SONG WHICH MOMMY TAUGHT HIM MONTHS AGO WAS ALSO A TREMENDOUS HELP IN HIS LEARNING THE ALPHABET. Mommy and Daddy suggested that if he shows an interest in learning the individual letters to go ahead and teach him the alphabet, even though some of the books say to put that part aside. Glenn Doman suggests teaching the child the alphabet by the time he can read

50 words, but Davidito could recite the alphabet before he could read, at about 15 months old, because he had learned this cute little song. (See Chapter 12, page 8 of "It's a Boy" series.)

10. IT WAS ALWAYS FUN TO POINT OUT WORDS, LETTERS AND NUMBERS as we would see them throughout the day on signs, paper, etc. I made cards to correspond with the alphabet song that he could sing along with and therefore see the alphabet in writing as well as hear it spoken.



Guess who built a "tall tower of twelve"!--in a hotel playroom where we visited often for schooltime.

11. AS HE WOULD COME ACROSS CERTAIN WORDS THAT HE DID NOT KNOW, I WOULD READ THE WORD TO HIM phonetically in "combination sound", such as "Shell" at the gas station (the "sh" sound being



He'd carry his cars & wordbook in his own pouch! (ABC-magnetic board in the background.)

the combination sound). By the time he had been reading for four months, which was mid-May '77, he was reading 375 words fluently.

12. BY MID-JUNE, FIVE MONTHS OF READING, HE COULD READ 504 WORDS! By this time we had changed our living location and I came across a good supply of children's books in English at a regular Portuguese bookstore.

13. THE OLDTIME FAVOURITE AMERICAN "GOLDEN BOOK" READERS BECAME SOME OF HIS FAVOURITES and once he would hear the story read to him he could, within a couple of days time, read the story right back to us, partly by memory and partly by sight reading the words. But he was reading the story regardless of whether his memory was an aid to his reading

or not, because he was pointing to the words individually as he sounded them out. Besides the 25 books that I made for him, he could read six other system books.

14. AT THE END OF JUNE '77 I TRIED AN EXPERIMENT FOR TEN DAYS TO SEE IF DAVIDITO COULD LEARN THE VOCABULARY PRESENTED IN THE "LAND OF NOT TOO MUCH" WORDBOOKS.

It took the ten full days for him to finally get the vocabulary down and it went very slow and it was very hard to keep his interest in certain words. I put gummed stars on each page as he learned the word, but he seemed to be losing interest altogether.

15. THEN ONE NIGHT BEFORE BED HE ASKED TO READ TO ME and he read the whole book of "The Land of Not Too Much" beautifully, which proved to me that although this method of teaching him was boring him, he was learning the words nevertheless. I should have put the words into a story form as he was learning them so as to keep his interest up rather than just present the words from a wordbook or flashcard.

16. HE HAD BEEN LEARNING TO READ FOR SIX MONTHS NOW, BUT WAS BEGINNING TO SHOW A LOSS OF INTEREST in learning new vocabulary words. So for the next two months I tried various ways of regaining his interest and keeping him from feeling condemned and totally disappointed about his disinterest in reading.

17. I FOLLOWED FELICITY HUGHES' ADVICE FROM "READING AND WRITING BEFORE SCHOOL" AND READ TO DAVIDITO as often as he wanted me to. I desperately prayed about new ideas for word games and learning vocabulary. The book "Help Your