



Reading With Your Child

A guide to supporting your child at home.



Setting the scene

- Choose a quiet time and a quiet place.
- Sit side by side so you are both looking at the book.
- If it is a new book, talk about it before you start reading.
- Short, frequent sessions are best, e.g. 10 minutes two or three times a week – more often if you can manage it!
- As your child is reading remember to:

Pause, Prompt and Praise.

Pause

- If your child makes a mistake **WAIT** at least until the end of the sentence before you offer help. This gives him/her a chance to correct the mistake without help.

Prompt

- If the mistake does not make sense, help by giving some clues about the **meaning** of the story.
- If the mistake does make sense, help by giving clues about the **look** of the word.
- If your child leaves a word out completely do the same things
 - If leaving the word out does not make sense, give clues about the **meaning** of the story.

- If leaving the word out does make sense, give clues about the **look** of the word.

Praise

- When a sentence is read correctly.
- When your child has corrected his/her own mistake.
- When he/she has managed to work out what a word says after you have given some clues.

If your child can't read the word after two prompts, tell them the word.

Talking about it

Talking about what you've just read together helps children think about what they've read, boosts their imagination and grows their confidence. It's also a good way to pick up on new words and check that they understand what they've read.

Why not try:

- ✓ Getting your child to think of questions they can ask you. This will test if you've been listening!
- ✓ Asking how they think a particular character in a story might be feeling (you can look at the faces in pictures to help them get started).
- ✓ Asking them to tell you what they would do if they were in the story, or what they think is going to happen next.

These questions encourage your child to say more than 'yes' or 'no'.