Hearing Your Child Read



Some ideas to help…..

- It is important to have regular practise so hear your child read every day. Little and often is best.
- Pick a time which fits in with their day and make it become a routine.
- Choose a quiet time with no distractions. Make sure that it is a focused time…..not in front of the TV with lots of distractions.
- Ten to fifteen minutes is usually long enough. Your child does not have to read the whole book in one go. A few pages at a time is fine.
- We want to make reading a positive experience. Show enthusiasm for the activity and give it your full attention. Be positive and praise your child for their effort.

If your child comes to a difficult word and stops, you may like to try some of the following ideas….

- Ask them to look at the first letter of the word.
- Encourage sounding out each letter or digraph to build the word and blend the sounds together – we call this 'snowballing'
- Ask them to look at the pictures for clues
- Ask them to miss the word out and read to the end of the sentence. Then go back to the beginning of the sentence and make a guess. They could use the first letter of the word to help them
- Ask them to look for words they might know within the word
- Ask them to look for patterns in words e.g ing, ed, ight, ace, ice
- If they still do not know, then tell them the word.

Once they have read the sentence encourage them to reread the sentence again.

This will help them to understand what they are reading as well as developing their fluency for reading.

Importantly, remember there is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Just as important is being able to understand what has been read. Always talk to your child about the pictures, characters, how they think the story will end,their favourite part. You will be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.

Finally don't leave reading just to your child's daily reading book from school. Encourage them to read print in the environment take them to the library. Encourage them to help you read their bedtime story. Also be a positive role model by letting them see you reading. If they see you reading, then they are more likely to see reading as a valued and fun activity. Boys seeing dads, uncles, granddads reading is so important.

Reading record book

Please sign your child's reading record book every time you hear them read. A record will be kept in school of how often children are reading at home.

Try to be positive and praise your child for their effort and achievement.





Sharing a book with your child



- Read to your child everyday.
- Be enthusiastic about the story… or choose another
- Allow your child to choose whenever possible. Yes, they will often choose their favourite over and over again…this is quite natural. If you try to change the story, or leave bits out they will tell you very quickly!

Before you read you may like to:-

- Read through the story yourself first (It's a big help if you know the story well…it helps you to lead up to the exciting bits and encourage joining in)
- Decide (even practise) the bits to read like a giant or ant.
- Decide good places to stop and ask; "What do you think will happen next?
- Decide which pictures to stop and talk about.

During reading:-

- Show your enjoyment, laugh, smile, look scared, look sad, sound excited, etc.
- Run your fingers along the line under the words as you read.
- Invite the child to turn the pages over
- Talk about the pictures… "

After reading

- Talk about similar experiences your child might have had. "Do you remember when you….." "It's just like when you…."
- Talk about the story afterwards.
- "Which bit did you like?" "Wasn't it funny when…."
- If your child enjoyed it read it again
- Find another by the same author
- Find another in the series
- Find another on the same topic

- Books read to children can help enrich them

As well as developing language those who are read to regularly develop a positive attitude to and a love for reading.



The positive feel and love of books is a powerful incentive to learn to love reading for themselves… which after all is what we really want.