



Reading At Home

Your child is now on the next stage of their reading journey, and has started to bring home reading scheme books so you can share in their development of new skills. This is an exciting time, but reading is not simply about how quickly a child can read a book and progress through a reading scheme it is also about developing a deeper understanding of the meaning behind the words, and it fuels a child's creativity and ability in writing and spelling.

Hints for listening to readers

- Sit somewhere comfortable with your child, where distractions are limited.
- Be prepared for your child to re read books, this repetition will enable them to recognise the words out of context, essential in enabling children to retain and recall words, it will also increase their confidence.
- When they do have a new book, take time to look at the cover and blurb, discussing the headings, clues in the pictures. See if your child can tell you what the content might be about. Talk about their ideas and your own!
- If the book is on going, ask them what has happened so far, what they think might happen next, and what they do or do not like about the book.
- If the book is at the correct level for your child, they should be reaching over 90% success with the words, (one mistake in ten words) beyond this reading becomes a struggle.
- An excellent strategy for young or struggling readers is to use- adult reads, we read, child reads, a page or short passage, allowing the child to relax and to enjoy reading with success.

If your child does not know a word there are several ways to help-

- Use the pictures as a clue- this can be used to prepare the child for new words too.
- Miss the word out and read to the end of the sentence to see if a clue has been given in the sentence.
- Look at the initial sound and other letter patterns in the word.
- If these don't help supply the word so the meaning and enjoyment is not lost.
- Talk about the text, its size, layout use of punctuation, words printed in bold etc.
- Use who, what, when, where, why and how, to prompt discussion of the story, remember to enjoy and explore the story beyond the pages and words of the book - this will spark your child's understanding and imagination.

Share your ability with your child/ children by reading stories to them as often as possible.

Most of all give lots of praise and make the experience a positive one for both of you.

We hope that this will be helpful, though if you are unsure about anything, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

