

Making the most of reading with you child

Always praise your child. Praise what she/he reads correctly and 'good tries'. It's alright to make mistakes.

Make time. Cuddle up and turn the TV off. Make it a special and enjoyable time without distractions.

Give your child lots of chances to read the story again and again. Children need repetition and time to internalise the story.

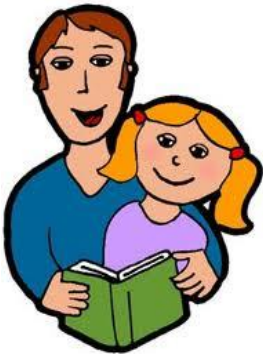
Quit while you're ahead. End each reading session on a happy note!



Discuss the story, what have you liked/disliked about the story and say why.

Read the synopsis (blurb). Look through the pictures together so that your child can see what happens before reading the words.

As your child reads, encourage them to slide their finger under each word. This will help them focus.



If your child gets stuck on a word, you could prompt by either looking at the picture, looking how the word begins, skipping the word by reading around the word, go back and reread the whole sentence, asking if the word looks right or sounds right.



Visit the library. Although it is nice to own books, variety is important, try to use the public library regularly. Encourage your child to explore a range of books, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry etc.

Communicate with school. Your child will get a reading record book for you to write in and comment on how you think your child is reading. Try to communicate regularly with positive comments or concerns.



Play games. These could include; word snap, memory pairs, key word bingo, making words with magnetic letters. Pre reading games include; I spy, rhyming games, memory games, spot the difference, Where's Wally, singing the alphabet song.

