

STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT THE READING PROCESS AT HOME



Choose a quiet time when you can enjoy the book together. Listening to your child daily is the most beneficial (just 5-10 minutes).

- When reading encourage children to use their phonic skills (apart from some tricky words, eg. Was which cannot be sounded out).
- In the early days you may encourage your child to use his/her finger to point at each word.
- Give lots of encouragement and praise. Reading should be fun!
- All readers make mistakes and sometimes you may wish to prompt if your child is losing the flow of a story. However, sometimes providing words too quickly can prevent the child re-reading and correcting the mistake themselves.
- When prompting, establish the initial sound and 'sound out' the word together if possible (remember that not all words are decodable).
- Are there any patterns similar to those found in known words?
- It is also sometimes useful to encourage young readers to guess at the meaning by using the context of the passage or pictures. Try reading the whole sentence and think about what could fit and make sense.
- Don't spend a long time struggling with a word - you may need to give the word and move on. If your child finds many words tricky on a page, this indicates that the level may be too challenging for them.