

- Try to read every day for about 5 minutes, as little and often is best.
- Talk about the front cover and read the title. Ask questions, such as 'What do you think this book is going to be about?'
- Spend some time talking about the characters, story events, illustrations or information in the book.
- Check for understanding and explain new words.
- Read to your child first, pointing to each word and then let them copy. As your child becomes more skilled and confident with reading, let them read the book first.
- Point out the page numbers and how a contents page / index are used in an information book.
- Ask your child to re-tell a favourite story in their own words.

How you can help your child

- Children will learn sounds (phonemes) in school in order of frequency to help them build words e.g.
 i+t= it s+a+t= sat th+i+s= this
- Ask your child which sounds they have learned this week. Encourage them to use the action, such as a tummy rub for 'm', which helps them to remember the letter(s) that go with the sound.
- o Make words with the sounds your child knows.
- Help your child with words that he/she doesn't know or are too difficult to work out using letter sounds.
- Help your child to learn words that are sent home and use the words to make sentences. Maybe stick any difficult words by a door as a 'password'.
- Accept that your child may forget things. Children sometimes need to see a word or letter lots of times before they remember it.

- Encourage reading for pleasure with a range of texts/ materials, such as story CDs, magazines and bedtime stories.
- Demonstrate expressive reading to your child. Try different types of voices (frightened, happy, angry) when reading speech.
- * Read a recipe and make it together.
- Read signs and labels when out and about e.g. road signs, supermarket and food labels.
- Put the subtitles on when your child is watching a dvd.
- Borrow story and information books from your library.

Remember

- Reading is more effective when you and your child are not too tired.
- ✓ Write comments in the home/ school reading record.



Some resources on the internet

BBC has a lot of resources:

bbc.co.uk/cbeebies

Use this website to find phonic games for your child to play (e.g. alphablocks) and watch programmes on iplayer (e.g. Fun with Phonics).

bbc.co.uk/education

A range of information for parents and games for children.

bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/

A range of phonic games and activities.

To find out more about phonics visit:

Youtube

Search for 'phonic sounds Tami Reis-Frankfort'

The sounds for each letter are demonstrated in this video.

For further explanations of words such as 'phoneme' and 'segmenting' visit: jellyandbean.co.uk/glossary

For lots of information for parents and 'e books' visit: www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Ruth Miskin's Top Ten Tips are useful.

Encourage your child to use the internet to research an area of interest or find out more about an author. Lots of authors have really good websites.