

Top Tips for Reading with your Child



Make time to read

- ♦ This is one of the best ways to support your child's education
- ♦ Ten minutes a day can make a real difference to your child's achievement
- ♦ Little and often is the key
10 minutes every week night is better than 1 hour once per week



Choose the right setting



- ◆ Snuggle up somewhere warm and cosy with your child, either in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa
- ◆ Find somewhere quiet without any distractions - turn off the computer, television and mobile phones
- ◆ Sit close together - encourage your child to hold the book themselves and turn the pages



A decorative border of various colorful books (red, yellow, blue, green) is arranged around the edges of the slide. The books are shown in different orientations, some standing upright and some lying flat, creating a border that frames the central text area.

Talk about the book

Before reading

- ♦ Look at the front and back covers together - these give clues to what the book is about
- ♦ Ask questions such as:
 - "What do you think this book might be about?"*
 - "What do you think will happen to the characters in the story?"*

During reading

- ◆ Encourage your child to read at their own pace
- ◆ Encourage your child to:
 - Notice if something doesn't make sense and re-read it to put it right
 - Ask their own questions if they don't understand something
- ◆ Discuss any new or unfamiliar words to ensure that your child understands their meaning
- ◆ Stop at intervals in the story and ask:
"What has happened so far? What do you think will happen next?"

Pay attention to language and punctuation

After reading



- ◆ Talk with your child about the book (the story, characters and the setting) as they need to have a good level of understanding
- Encourage them to break down words into a series of sounds and blend them together
- ◆ Ask your child to retell the story as it is important to remember the main details or facts
- ◆ Your child needs to recognise common words automatically and understand their meaning
"Tell me as much as you can, in your own words, about what you have just read"
- ◆ Look up unfamiliar words in a dictionary
- ◆ Ask for your child's opinion of what they have read:
"Did you enjoy the book? Can you explain why?"
- ◆ Encourage your child to respond to punctuation, pausing appropriately and varying their voice
What was your favourite part of the book? Why?"



Enjoy reading!

To foster a love of books:

- ♦ Make reading time fun
- ♦ Show your enjoyment
- ♦ Let your children see you reading

"If parents make books part of their lives, then books will become more a part of their children's lives"

