



Top tips for reading



We use reading every day and in every occupation so hearing your child read is incredibly important in helping them practise and improve this vital skill.

Here are some top tips for making this an enjoyable experience for both of you.

1. As with writing, a short time period on a regular basis is more effective than a long time once in a while. Ideally the children should read for fifteen minutes a day.
2. It is best to read in a warm environment with no distractions so turn the TV off and get comfy on the sofa.
3. If the child hits a word they don't know, ask them to sound it out using the phonic sounds they learn at school (see Read Write Inc). If it is not a word they can sound out, ask them if they can get any clues from the context or the picture. Read the sentence without the tricky word and they can often guess it correctly.
4. It is important to discuss the book with your child as you read. Take time to check they understand the vocabulary, point out the punctuation and the job it does, ask questions about the text. (Some questions for different texts are attached). It is vital that the children understand what they are reading and are not just trotting out the words.
5. Have fun with the book, encourage your child to make up different voices, enjoy the pictures and predict what might happen next. (If your child is really not enjoying a particular book, see their teacher and change it rather than struggling on.)