

Reading with your child at home

Reading Posture

If possible try to make sure your child is sat with their book on a flat surface. Children should follow the text word by word with their finger. Encourage the children to take their time and use their phonics skills to sound out any words they are unsure of.

Before Reading

Look at the front and back covers together- these give clues to what the book is about. Discuss what they think the book may be about and what type of book it is (fiction or non-fiction). See if the children can explain how they have decided.

Some questions that may help;

What type of book do you think this will be?

What do you think the story will be about?

What do you think will happen to the characters in this story?

How do you think the story will end?

During Reading

Make a note of any words they are unsure of so they can look up the meaning and discuss.

Encourage children to use the phonics knowledge to sound out words and break down longer words. If they are still struggling, read it to them and then get them to read it back to you and then move on.

Discuss any new or unfamiliar words with your child in the context of the story, ensuring they understand the meaning.

After Reading

Discuss the book with your child once they have finished reading.

Some questions that may help;

Why is 'character' feeling like that?

Is there a reason 'character' acted like that?

Can you retell the story to me?

What was your favourite part of the story and why?

See if your child can ask questions about the book they have read.

How does this book compare with another book you have read?

Name 3 themes within this book. Are they similar to any other books you have read?

Summarise what has happened in this chapter in 6 sentences.

Non-Fiction specifically;

Ask your child to find information within the book. See if they can use the contents, index and glossary to make sense of any facts they are unsure about. Discuss how the layout of the non-fiction books helps readers to find information.

Encourage your child to read the story again. This will build reading confidence and fluency.