

## **How you can help your child with reading at home**

Daily reading practise will help develop your child's decoding and comprehension skills. They may only read 3 or 4 pages of their book but would benefit from spending longer discussing their understanding of what they have read in order to develop their comprehension skills.

We would encourage children to read a variety of texts on a regular basis and take any opportunities to read texts in their environment such as road signs, leaflets, information posters, newspapers etc. Please feel free to share these reading experiences in their reading diary and encourage them to share their opinions about the texts they have read.

### **TOP TIPS FOR READING WITH YOUR CHILD**

#### **1) Choose a quiet time**

Set aside a quiet time with no distractions. 10 to 15 minutes is a perfect amount of time.

#### **2) Make reading enjoyable**

Make reading an enjoyable experience and sit together to enjoy the book that they have chosen.

#### **3) Maintain the flow**

If your child mispronounces a word do not interrupt immediately. Allow your child to self-correct using their phonics skills. You can always discuss mispronounced words at the end of your reading time.

#### **4) Visit the library**

Encourage your child to use the library regularly – you could make it a regular visit you share as a family.

#### **5) Regular practice**

Try to read with your child every day. Little and often is best.

#### **6) Talk about the books**

There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Being able to understand what has been read is just as important. Always talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their

favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.

#### 7) Variety is important

Children need to experience a variety of reading materials e.g. picture books, hardbacks, comics, magazines, poems, recipes, instructions and information books.

#### **Vocabulary**

- Which word tells you that....?
- Which keyword tells you about the character/setting/mood?
- Find one word in the text which means.....
- Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to.....
- Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that.....

#### **Infer**

- Find a group of words which show that...
- How do these words make the reader feel?
- How do the descriptions of ..... show that they are ...?
- How can you tell that.....
- What voice might these characters use?
- What was .... thinking when.....
- Who is telling the story?

#### **Predict**

- From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?
- What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?
- Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

**Explain**

- What is the author's point of view?
- Which section was the most interesting/exciting part?

**Retrieve**

- How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?
- What happened to...?
- What does.... do?
- The story is told from whose perspective?

**Summarise**

- What happened after .....?
- What was the first thing that happened in the story?
- Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?