



Reading Together...

For children to become readers they need to be read to. There is so much to learn, for example, they need to know how books work, that there are words and pictures which tell a story. That books go from front to back and print left to right. This is before they can begin to learn to sound out words!



To help your child we are giving you a book and some tips to help you support your child become a reader. Make it -

- *A special time*- find 5 minutes to sit quietly together, snuggle up!
- *A special place*- turn off TV, radio etc. Ignore your phone.
- *Talk together* -look at the pictures, talk about what is happening. What do they think the story will be about?
- *Read the story*- point to the words sometimes to show the children this is what you're reading. Maybe stop and ask a question. But don't ask too many so that the story doesn't flow.
- *After the story*- ask the children which part they liked best.
- *Enjoy it* – don't make it a chore!

Try and share a book together daily – you can join the library and get books for free to borrow!



Once they know some letter sounds and can blend sounds together they can begin to read themselves. When listening to them read

- Encourage them to look at the words and use their phonics to sound them out.
- Give them time and ask them to sound it out again if stuck.
- If stuck let them look at the picture to see if it helps them or read the rest of the sentence to get a clue.
- Children sometimes need to read the sentence again to understand it.
- Ask them a question about the book when they have finished e.g. which part did you like? How do you think ... felt?
- Encourage children to remember words if they have read them before and not keep sounding them out.
- Use lots of praise – make it a really positive time. Children need a “**can do**” attitude to reading.

HELP YOUR CHILD BECOME A READER!