

What else can parents do?

Books can prompt other activities - for example 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' might prompt a search for insects in the garden.



Using props or puppets that you or your child can hold and use during the story can help your child to maintain interest in the story. For example you could make finger puppets of 'Spot the Dog' before reading a story of 'Spot'

Relate the story to your child's own experiences. For example, "Maisy wants to play in the paddling pool. Jack do you remember when we played in our paddling pool?"

Apples

6 for £1.00

You can read other things, look at print around you, such as street names and signs in the supermarket.

Try telling your own story.
Children love making up and
joining in with stories.
Let your child see you reading.



Martenscroft Nursery School & Sure Start Children's Centre



Books Are For Sharing



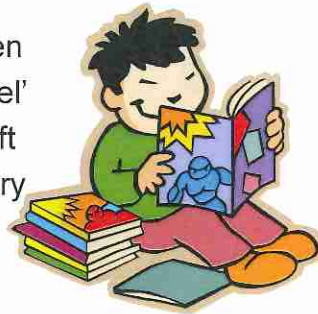
**A Parent's Guide to
Reading with your Child.**

Sharing books from an early age helps your child when they are older. Research shows that children who have had an early introduction to books are better equipped for school than those who don't.

Early reading prepares children to be lifelong readers.

What books should I choose?

There's a huge variety of books for children under 5 including: bath books, 'touch & feel' books, noisy books, 'pop up' books and 'lift the flap' books, traditional tales and nursery rhymes. Encourage your child to engage with a variety of different books.



Books can help your child with specific issues for example, 'Potty Pig & Nappy Duck' helps with potty training and 'There's a House Inside My Mummy' helps a child understand Mum having another baby.

Books can help your child make sense of the world by learning about new things and new places for example, 'Busy Little Gardener' tells children how vegetables grow and how they can grow their own food.



How can parents share books?

Encourage your child to turn pages 1 at a time. Point to words as you read them. Try putting on funny voices or different accents.

Changing the way you speak when reading can hold your child's interest in the story.

Point to the pictures or words to show your child what it is you are talking about.

**Use sounds that go alongside the words
These are easier for your child to copy,
sound interesting and help your child begin to understand the meaning of the words.**



Try to use facial expressions and gestures to go with the story. This will also help to keep your child's interest and help them understand the words.

For babies and younger children, keep what you say short and simple and emphasise the important word, for example "There's the cat. Meow meow. That's the cat."

For older children ask questions like 'what's going to happen next'?