

## The importance of reading

- Every parent has an important role to play in helping their child to read
- Research shows that this makes a huge impact on your child's progress, especially if you start when your child is young
- Being a good reader will help your child to access many areas of the curriculum e.g. maths problems.
- To be good at writing you need to be a good reader.

## Encouraging reading

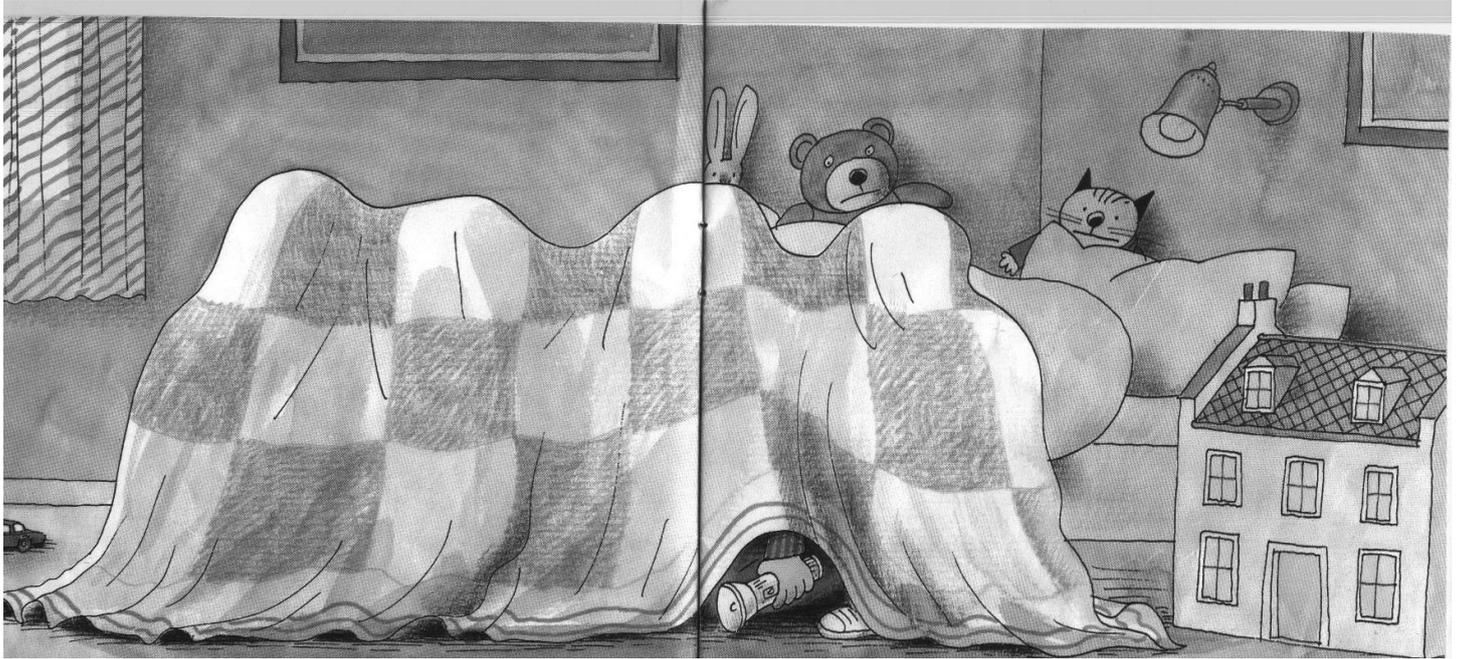
- Read yourself- newspapers, books
- Value books and keep them safe, show enthusiasm for books
- Point out words around you
- Visit your library
- Make time to read
- Bed time reading
- Talk about books in your first language
- Talk to the class teacher about your child's progress
- Show confidence in your child
- Help your child to understand and enjoy reading
- Be patient and unhurried, be happy to spend the time

## Top tips - strategies

- Be positive
- Turn off the TV
- Give them time
- Point with a finger
- Don't make them try too hard
- Let them read their favourites
- Ask lots of questions
- Don't read for too long, be aware of your child's mood
- Remind your child it is ok to make mistakes
- Listen actively
- Praise your child

### Talking about the pictures

- Try to get your child to tell you what they can see
- Ask them if the picture helps them to work out what is going to happen next
- Get them to name the characters and objects they can see
- Encourage them to say the words that are in the text



### Asking questions

## What? Who? Why? Where? How? When?

- Who do you think is under the covers?
- Tell me what you can see?
- How many toys are on the bed?
- What can you see at the bottom of the picture?
- What do you think he is doing?
- Have you ever hidden in your bed?
- Is there only one person under the bed?
- Why do you think they are hiding?
- What do you think they are going to do?

### Useful games and websites

- I spy- using sounds
- Magnetic letters
- Wooden letters
- Tapes / CDs / internet
- Songs and rhymes
- [www.jollylearning.co.uk](http://www.jollylearning.co.uk)
- [www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies)
- [www.worldstories.org.uk](http://www.worldstories.org.uk)
- <http://worldbookday.com/big-book-off/>
- [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

## 10 reasons why you should read with your child 😊

### 1. Creates a bond

Spending time reading to your children will bring you all closer together.

### 2. Expanded vocabulary

The more children read the more words they learn. This will continue to help them with their writing as they move through the school and even when they get to high school!

### 3. Improved attention span

Reading makes children concentrate for longer than other entertainment.

### 4. Increased self-esteem

Stories with happy endings make children feel better.

### 5. Increased chance of academic success

Every child is taught the same way at school. It's what they learn at home that can really help them excel.

### 6. Teaches social values

Children can learn from the way characters in stories treat each other.

### 7. Helps build empathy

Hero-based storybooks help children imagine what it must be like to be someone else.

### 8. Encourages curiosity

Every time they turn the page there's something new to see.

### 9. Encourages independence

Once children learn to read, they can start reading books all by themselves.

### 10. They will become a reader for life

They may forget how to ride a bike, but they'll never forget how to read and that's a gift that can be given to our children, from us parents.

## Pause, Prompt, Praise

- Let the child select a book. Discuss the cover, and the author/illustrator
- Look through the book together and talk about the pictures. Discuss how you are going to read the book. Is the adult going to read first or the child? Will you read alternate pages? Ask the child how he/she wants to be helped by you.
- Does he/she want you to: Give the word? Give a clue? Give the first sound?
- When the child is reading aloud and makes a mistake or leaves out a word.....

### PAUSE.....

- Give the child 5 seconds to correct him/herself, or make an attempt to read the word.

### PROMPT....

- If the word is not read correctly, you could give one or more prompts:
- Give the word to the child
- Remind them of a picture clue
- Review what went before
- Encourage looking ahead
- Explore the thinking behind the guess
- Encourage the child to look at the shape/the ending/the middle of the word
- Break the word down into syllables

### PRAISE.....

- Praise correct reading of a difficult word
- Praise attempt at getting the word right even if this is not achieved
- Be specific when praising:
- Comment on the use of context
- Praise for carrying on
- Praise for using phonic clues
- Find opportunities to discuss difficult words or parts of words so that the child can practise and learn

### How not to say no . . .

- When a child is reading aloud, don't interrupt to correct a mistake if it does not affect the sense of the story.
- If you think a child may not have understood a particular word, refer to it when you have finished the chapter/book, rather than break the flow.
- Set yourself the challenge of not saying 'No' to a child. You could instead say . . .

Very nearly

Try again

You're getting

Are you sure?

So close

Almost

What about

Not quite

Good try

Have another look