



Reading with your Child at Home

Learn to Read, Read to Learn

Early Reading

Read regularly and widely with your child. Read together books matched to their current reading level and books beyond that for pleasure.

Play 'I Spy' games. Can you find the words beginning with..? Can you find a picture of a...?

Make reading fun! Give characters different voices and make a game of finding words that rhyme or start with the same sound.

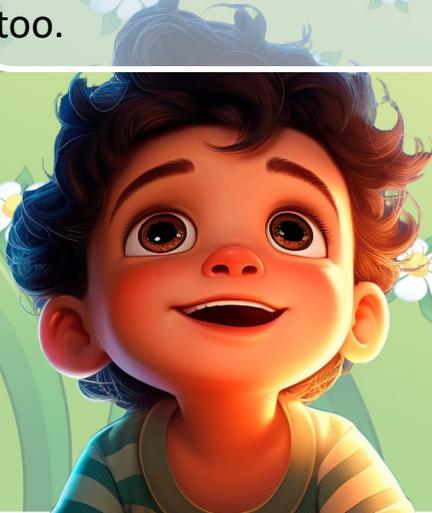
Create new stories from shared stories. Draw characters and draw events to retell together.

Ask questions about the characters and story. What is the story about? Who are the main characters? Why did.. happen? What happened at the end of the story? Did you enjoy the story? Why/why not?

Have a special place and time where you and your child read together.

Read everything out loud to your child! Books, poems, nursery rhymes, food labels, magazines and newspapers.

Be a reading role model! Be seen by your child reading books and magazines too.



Following on from first steps:

Talk about the front cover and blurb of a book before you begin to read.

Discuss the type of book it is. Is it fiction or non-fiction? How do children know?

Make predictions about the book based on the front cover and encourage children to justify the predictions that they have made.

Talk about what is happening in the pictures before you read the text. What can children see? What can/does this tell us?

Discuss the meaning of words within the book. Use a dictionary to 'look up' words and look for synonyms and antonyms of the word.

Ask your child questions about what they are reading and encourage them to make predictions about what will happen next.

Discuss the story setting, characters and events. Does the story have a problem? How is this resolved? How do the characters feel and how do you know?

Reflect on the book together. How did the story end? What do you know now that you didn't before you started reading?

Encourage children to read with expressions, especially for different characters.

Discuss font types and punctuation used on the pages.

Take it in turns to read with your child. The entire book does not have to be read in one go.