


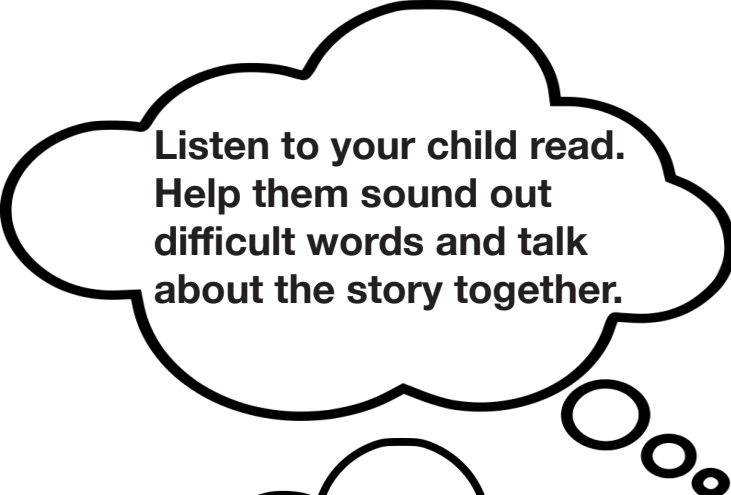
Supporting your child's literacy

Reading with your child is a fantastic way to improve their confidence, enjoyment and reading skills. Here are some ideas you could try.

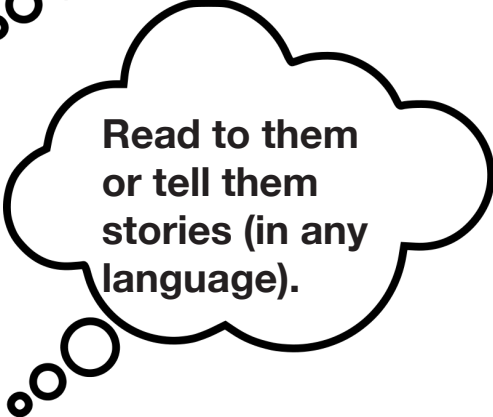
Read together little and often, every day if you can – or ask older brothers or sisters, or other family or friends to read with your child. Try whichever of these suits you and your child:



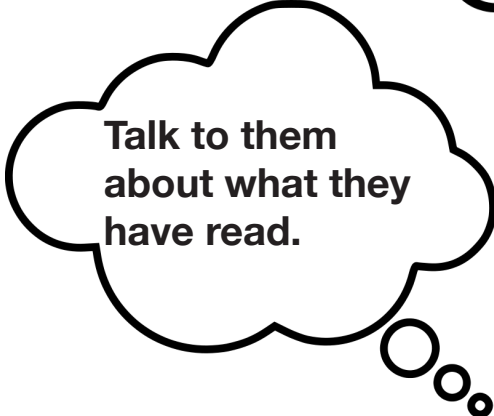
Talk to them about what you are reading.



Listen to your child read. Help them sound out difficult words and talk about the story together.



Read to them or tell them stories (in any language).



Talk to them about what they have read.

Getting your child into the reading habit

Make time for reading – 20 minutes every day. If you have access to a computer, encourage your child to spend time doing Lexia or Accelerated Reader.

Take your child to your local library or bookshop. Ask the staff for help choosing books. Use the library or bookshop regularly so that you always have books in the house.

Remember, reading lots of different texts is best. Your child will benefit from all kinds of reading, including: newspapers, magazines, graphic novels, comics, novels, non-fiction books, biographies... Reading online or on an e-reader is fine, too.

Check the reading log in your child's planner and check Accelerated Reader if you can: they should be changing their book and taking a quiz at least once every two weeks. Use Accelerated Reader to find out the level of reading books to check your child is reading at a level that isn't too hard but is challenging enough to keep their reading moving up.

If you're concerned about your child's reading, or if you want support of any kind, please contact the school.

LITERACY (CONTINUED..)

You can use these cards to help talk to your child about a book or another text. They work for any text, from a magazine article to a novel. Use them in order: do the 'predict' card before you read, the 'questions' and 'clarify' as you go along and the 'summarise' at the end. Make up your own questions if the ones on the cards don't work for you.

Predict

What do you expect from the text?

Use all the clues to help you. For example:

What kind of text is this?

If it's a book, what genre is it (horror, adventure, romance etc) and how can we tell.

What have I read before that links to this?

What can I tell from the cover, the title or the first lines?

Are there any pictures to help me? What can I tell from these?

Question

What questions can you ask about what you have read?

For example:

I am curious about...

I want to know more about...

I don't understand...

A word I found difficult was...

The most confusing part was...

Why has the writer written about...?

Clarify (make clear)

Use your own questions, see which ones you can answer to make the meanings clear. You could:

Go back and re-read parts of the text that were confusing.

Skim for key words or information in the text that you may have missed the first time round.

Use a dictionary or the internet to look up difficult words.

Summarise

Sum up what you have read. A summary should be:

Short and sharp.

In your own words.

Cover all main points from the text.

To make it even better, you could add what you liked and disliked about the text, and what you would change if you wrote it.