



READING AT HOME - SOME ADVICE FOR PARENTS

P4 - P7



- Don't expect your child to know every word.
- Don't worry if your child occasionally misreads a word.
- Don't bring competitiveness and comparisons with other children into your child's reading.
- Keep reading time relaxed, comfortable and pleasurable, in a quiet place with the television turned off.
- Be positive about your child's reading. Praise them when they do well and help if the book is difficult.
- Be positive about reading and talk to your child about what you read.
- Share a love for books/texts.

READING ALOUD

If your child is finding a word tricky, first try to:

- Sound out all the letters separately, then blend them together
- Look at the first letter or letters
- Break the word into syllables
- Look at the last letter
-

WORD ATTACK STRATEGIES				
Look closely	Sound it out	Blend it together	Read the word	Check - does it sound correct?

The link below illustrates sounding out/blending:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEzfpod5w_Q

Within P4 to P7, many children will become more independent readers so can be encouraged to read silently on their own and seek help from a parent if they need it. However, it is still worthwhile engaging in discussion with your child about the texts they read. Parents can read a chapter or section of the book to have a focused discussion or texts can be discussed in general.

- Look at and talk about the cover of the book before you read - what might it be about?
- Ask personalised questions about the book to your child - Do you remember when you...?
- Check their understanding of the context by asking literal questions, e.g. Where was the boy going? What did the girl ask for?
- Use different voices when reading.
- Use actions when reading to make it more engaging.
- Encourage their prediction skills - what is going to happen next?
- Re-read the books or chapters - this really helps to build self-confidence.
- Ask your child what they liked / disliked about the story.

As children become more confident in their reading ask more open-ended questions and encourage discussion - Why do you think the child was frightened? How do you think the little girl felt?

The attached sheet from Twinkl gives further advice on helping your child as they become a more confident reader.

The following websites give some guidance in choosing age and stage appropriate books to read with your children:

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/>

<https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk/>