

## Reading At Home - Hints & Tips for Parents and Carers

1. Sit comfortably, somewhere quiet.
2. If necessary, read the book together first. Try and choose a time when your child is too tired.
3. **Point** to the words as you read them, but don't expect your child to know every word.
4. Talk about the pictures. Don't dismiss them as unimportant, as they can hold vital clues in the text you are reading.
5. Point out unusual words. Remember English is a strange language with many irregular words. You can't sound out every single word you read.
6. Look for different strategies and make sure you give the children the chance to use these - don't tell them straight away.
  - Words within words e.g there is a **hen** in **when**
  - Split the words into chunks player = pl ay er = player
  - Use the picture clues
  - Read through the difficult word to the end of the sentence, then go back- what word could it be?

### Sometimes you will use a combination of these strategies within the same book!

7. Ask questions such as... What will happen next? Do you think .....? Where is he going? Don't assume your child understands everything they read; effective questioning makes them think more about what they have read.
8. Tell them an unknown word, but explain to them how to work it out (see point 6 above for ideas)
9. Use 'sound clues' - check the beginning, middle and end sounds in words
10. Ask them to re-tell the story. What did they enjoy, like, dislike about the book they read?

Remember reading should be enjoyable and fun.