

Home Reading Tips for Parents & Carers

Make it Routine	
Find a quiet, comfortable spot that is the go-to reading spot with your child. If you have other children, this can be tricky, I know! It's about finding the right time for you and your child. Whether it be just before they go to bed, or first thing in the morning. Do what works for you!	
Before reading	<i>Ease into the book</i>
	<p>Get your child thinking about what the book might be about by asking some questions before you start reading.</p> <p>Here are some examples of what you could ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think this book is about? Why? • Do you think this is a story or a fact book? Why? • Can you read the title? Does this give you some more clues? • What can you notice about the picture on the front of the book? <p><i>Don't tell them, guide them 😊</i></p>
During reading	Build on decoding and fluency
	<p>If you tell your child every word they get stuck on, they won't learn to use the decoding strategies they are learning at school and will expect you to tell them every time. This isn't going to help them to develop and grow as readers. Your child will have a specific decoding goal to apply during reading.</p> <p>When your child is stuck on a word, prompt them to use their decoding bookmark to use a decoding strategy. Once the tricky word has been decoded, encourage your child to reread the sentence to check if the sentence makes sense. This will help with comprehending the text.</p> <p>Reading a reader more than once will build on fluency and comprehension. Encourage your child to pay attention to punctuation to develop fluency by reading smoothly and using expression.</p>
After reading	Build on comprehension
	<p>When they have finished reading the book. Ask a few questions to check for comprehension.</p> <p>Your child's comprehension is a vital component of them learning to read. A lot of the time parents listen to the home reader and then mark it off as complete. Getting into the habit of asking some questions at the end will help your child with their comprehension skills.</p> <p>They don't have to be difficult questions, here are a few that you may like to ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was your favourite part of the book and why? • How did you feel when you read that story? • What did you learn from this story? • What was the problem in the story? • Which character did you like and why? <p><i>For more question prompts refer to the 'before, during & after question prompts'</i></p>
Enjoy reading	Grow a love for reading
	<p>Make it Enjoyable!</p> <p>If you are getting frustrated with them, this will rub off on them. If they are finding it hard or they are too tired – read a page each. Get them to follow along with you and make silly mistakes! Your children will love correcting you. Put on some silly glasses (the ones with big noses) and read the book together!</p> <p>Reading is meant to be a fun enjoyable time with your child.</p>