

Helping your child with reading at home



Here are some literacy and reading activities that you could do when supporting your child at home

Some purposeful activities can include:

- **Reading with or to your child** or have the child read one of their 'just right' books to you. Focus on talking about the book as you are reading. Discussion is valuable. You could ask:

What are you thinking? Can you make any connections? Why do you think this is happening? What is the story about? Why did you choose this book? What did you think about this book? Why?

If the child gets stuck on a word, help them to think about – ‘What could make sense here?’ ‘Does that sound right?’ ‘Lets re-read this part together.’

- Practising some of the **words from personal spelling or sight words from the classroom word wall, by writing them on a small whiteboard**. You write the word – show the child how to: Look at the word, say the word, spell the word, take a picture of the word in your brain, cover the word, check the word, then have them write it another 2-3 times
- Take a sentence from one of your child's books – write it on a sentence strip and then **cut the word up into individual words** – see if they can put the sentence back together by themselves and re-read the sentence and then check it with the original in the book

- Play a game of '**hang person**' using one of the sight words or words from one of their books
- Use sight word flashcards see if your child can read the words one by one. Put the words out on the table. Play **I'm thinking of a word that rhymes with...** eg if the word is can, you would say...I'm thinking of a word that rhymes with man, can you find that word?
- Ask your child to choose one of their favourite **books or poems** – read the book together focussing on fluency and expression. Talk about the story. Ask them to find particular words or punctuation or letters/sounds after you have read the book.
- **Play the syllable game** – eg. Clap their name, your name has _ syllable. Clap other names of family and friends. Choose words from their book - little has 2 syllables, listen while I clap the word, litt-le – little, can you think of another word that has 2 syllables and clap it OR tell your child you are going to say a word slowly in its parts or syllables – you say litt-le, what is that word, see if they can say the complete word (use words from the sight word list or words from their book) You can also reverse this – you say the complete word and the child has to clap it into syllable parts!
- Choose a non-fiction book that your child has an interest in. Talk about what they already know about the topic. Read parts of the book together – talk about what new information we found out!