

## Things to Do:

- ◆ Talk about the books and pictures
- ◆ Explain/Discuss what the book is about
- ◆ Ask your child to predict “What might happen next?”
- ◆ Ask your child to talk about what has happened—“What did you think about?”, “Tell me about...”
- ◆ Encourage expression as they read
- ◆ Write tricky words on a card to be practised
- ◆ Make a game out of the common and tricky words used in reading



## Phrases we use:

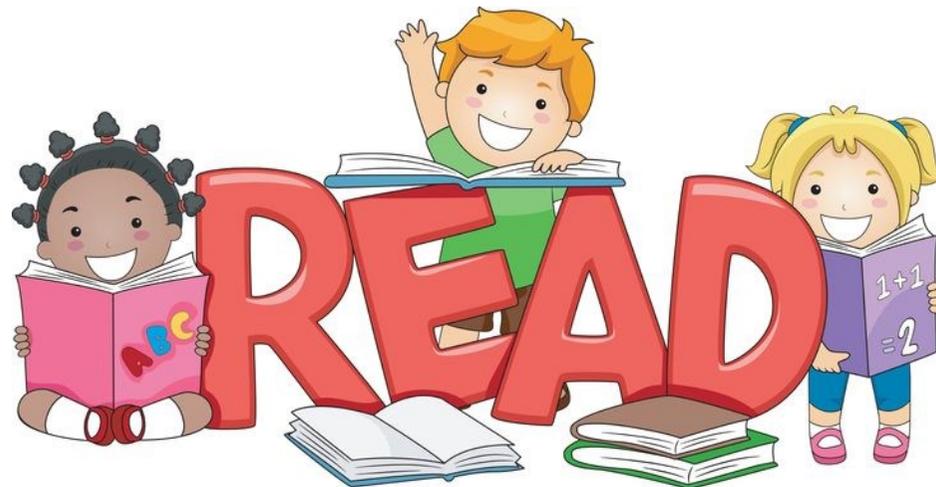
- ◆ “Well done, you had a go.”
- ◆ “Well done, you read that smoothly/ with expression.”
- ◆ “Good, you corrected yourself.”
- ◆ “Good try, but did that sound right?”
- ◆ “I like how you re-read that bit to check you understood it/ got it right.”
- ◆ “Let’s try reading that word again.”
- ◆ “Don’t forget to follow the punctuation.”
- ◆ After demonstration of smooth reading—“Can you read it like this?”

### Remember

**Give lots of praise and be specific  
Reading is fun!**



**How to help your child  
become a  
better reader**



**Name:**

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# How to help your child become a better reader.



## Introduction

We believe that reading is the key to successful learning in all areas of the curriculum. Our aim is for children to be able to read for information and pleasure.

To encourage children to become independent readers, we use a range of activities and pupils receive individual, small group and class tuition. We would appreciate your co-operation and support in encouraging your child to become a better reader.

This leaflet gives some practical ideas and explains how you can help your child at home.

## How children learn to read

Learning to read is like trying to crack a code. Children should be encouraged to look for different clues to help them understand what they are reading. Learning individual words is important but they are really aiming to work out the full message.

## How can you help?

When you hear your child read, encourage them to use the following strategies to work words out:

- ◆ Pictures
- ◆ Meaning of the text
- ◆ Length of word
- ◆ Word knowledge
- ◆ Sound words out



## Reading Practice

The aim is to make reading a happy experience

Do try to:

- ◆ Talk about the pictures and story
- ◆ Give your child time to work things out
- ◆ Practise regularly
- ◆ Make activities fun and interesting
- ◆ Find a place free from distractions



## Confidence and Motivation

These can be developed through:

- ◆ Re-reading familiar books—don't worry if your child brings home the same book on a number of occasions
- ◆ Listen to adults read aloud
- ◆ Reading the child's own writing
- ◆ Listening to taped stories
- ◆ Giving lots of specific praise
- ◆ Making reading **FUN**

