

# Questions to ask your child when reading:



## Before reading the book:

- \* Can you point to the title? or What is this? (pointing to the title)
- \* What do you think this story will be about?
- \* What might happen in the story?
- \* Who is in the story?

## During the reading of the book:

- \* What is happening here?
- \* What is \_\_\_\_\_ doing?
- \* What might happen next?
- \* How do you think the story might end?
- \* Is \_\_\_\_\_ friendly/ mean/ nice...?
- \* What does \_\_\_\_\_ mean? (To check understanding of a word)

## Supporting as they read:

- \* Can you have a go at sounding out that word?
- \* How can you break down that word?
- \* What do we need to do at a full stop?
- \* Can you use the picture to help you with that word?

## At the end of the book:

- \* Did you like this book? Why?
- \* What was your favourite part? Why?
- \* Which character did you like the best? Why?
- \* Why did that character do ... (give a situation/ event from the story)?
- \* What happened in the story?






## Reading At Home

The **MORE** that you  
**READ**, the more things  
you will **KNOW**.  
The **MORE** that you  
**Learn**, the more places  
you'll **GO**.

Dr. Seuss

## A Booklet for Foundation Stage Parents



| Why read 20 minutes at home?  |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Child A Reads   | Child B Reads   | Child C Reads   |
| 20 minutes a day  | 5 minutes a day   | 1 minute a day  |
| 3600 minutes per school year  | 900 minutes per school year   | 180 minutes per school year   |
| 1,000,000 words per year  | 282,000 words per year  | 8000 words per year   |
|    |  |  |
| If a child starts reading for 20 minutes a day per night in Reception, by the end of Year 6 Child A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Child B will have read for 12 days and Child C will have read for 3. |   |   |
| Want to be a better reader? Simply read!  |   |   |
| 10 Minutes reading to someone<br>10 minutes sharing or being read to<br>= 20 minutes  |   |   |

Be positive. Praise your child for trying hard. Let them know it's alright to make mistakes.  
*(helps your child feel success and making mistakes is part of learning)*

Let your child look through the whole book before they start reading. Can they tell you what the book will be about?  
*(helps understanding of new vocabulary)*

If your child gets stuck on a word let them try and sound it out before you tell them.  
*(helps your child read in context and gives them confidence to have a go)*

Help them to get the first sound or try breaking the word up into smaller sections.  
*(helps your child focus on the word)*

Children need to hear vocabulary before they read it. Talk with your child using adult words. Play rhyming games and learn Nursery rhymes.

Talk about events, e.g. how to cook something, how to tie shoelaces, recall recent events  
*(develops ability to sequence events)*



Help your child with



# reading



## I Spy

Play 'I Spy' games.  
Can you find words beginnings with...?  
Can you find a picture of a...? How many ... can you see?

## Make time

Make time to read to them. Read a story as part of their bedtime routine. This can be a chapter book with cliff hangers — they will want you to read more the next night!  
Be prepared to explain mature vocabulary if your child asks for clarification.

## Be seen

Make sure you are seen reading even if your child is a competent reader. Keep books and magazines at easy reach.

## Get out

Go to your public library regularly. Find the books you loved as a child to read together.

## Make it fun

Enjoy reading together. Give characters funny voices and engage with the pictures. Make a game out of findings words that rhyme or start with the same sound. Find words in the home.

## Create

Use reading to inspire drawings or make up new stories.

## Go online

Look online and in app stores for appropriate word and spelling games.

## Make space

Have a special place or a certain time when you read together.

## Read everything out loud

Books, poems, nursery rhymes, newspaper and magazine articles, food labels...anything that is close to hand!