

## HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

### **General Strategies to try at home**

- 📖 Make reading time **short** (about 10 mins), and **stress free** for both you and your child.
- 📖 **Read little and often** and give lots of **praise and encouragement**.
- 📖 Choose a time when your child is **most willing and not tired** and they have your attention.
- 📖 **Talk and model reading yourself** – express and show an enjoyment of reading, talk about the books, take turns to read.
- 📖 **Encourage your child to look at the pictures** either before they read the book or as they are reading.
- 📖 Encourage your child to **use phonics** to help them decode unfamiliar words. Point to each word as it is read.
- 📖 If they are finding the reading difficult, **don't ask your child to sound out every word** - focus on the words they do know.
- 📖 **Discuss the story. Ask lots of questions.**  
Children will enjoy reading more if they understand the book.
- 📖 **Read your child a bedtime story.**  
Research shows that children who have a relaxed story time just before they go to sleep make better progress with their reading in school.
- 📖 **Make reading part of your and your child's life.** Reading can include: comics, magazines, instructions or recipes, TV Guides, information books, newspapers, Audio Books, sports reports and shopping lists.

## FOSTER A LOVE OF READING

- 📖 Read stories, poems and other texts aloud to your child.
- 📖 Let your child see you reading for purpose and pleasure.
- 📖 Visit the library / bookshops to choose their own books.
- 📖 Reading with siblings (older and younger).
- 📖 Use stories on CDs (Audio Books).
- 📖 Help your child to choose books that follow your child's interests.
- 📖 Give reading a purpose - TV guide, recipes, game instructions, signs, catalogues...

### **ABOVE ALL, REMEMBER THE 3 Ps . . .**

- 📖 **PAUSE** to help them work out new words.
- 📖 **PROMPT** by using some of the techniques mentioned.
- 📖 **PRAISE** by telling your child exactly what has pleased you.  
*For example: I liked the way that you realised that it didn't make sense. I liked the way you checked the picture for clues.*

**Please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Hudson, if you are concerned about your child's reading or you require any further information.**



# READING

*A guide  
for parents*



**2015 - 2017**

