

*Try and read together each day; sharing books should be an exciting, happy experience for children.

*Talk about the front cover and read the title; ask questions such as 'What do you think it's going to be about?'

*Spend time talking about characters, events, settings, pictures or information in the book.

*Check to see if they understand new words, if not discuss and explain these words to them.

*Read to your child first, and ask them to copy and point to words. As they become more confident and skilled in reading, they will then read books to you.

*When looking at non-fiction books, discuss page numbers, contents pages and index pages. Discuss how this is different to a story book.

*During and after reading, discuss the story, what did you like? What was your favourite part? What was the story about? What could happen next?

Let your child see you reading and share this with them. Read/Listen to a range of texts, e.g. TV guides, shopping lists, magazines, newspapers, instructions, story CD's.

This encourages reading for pleasure!

Reading

How can you help your child?

Model reading with expression to them; try reading in different voices (frightened, excited, angry) when reading speech within a book.

*Read signs and labels when out and about, e.g. road signs, supermarket and food labels.

*Visit the local library and borrow story and information books. Let the children pick these themselves.

*Read recipes or instructions and then make or build it together.

*Ask the children which sounds they have learnt each week at school; ask them to teach you the 'jolly phonics' actions.

*Build words with your children at home using the letter sounds they already know.

*Create their own version of stories you've been reading together.