

# Reading at Home: Feedback and Encouragement



**Parents: Reading Counts**

### How can I help my child with reading at home?

- Listen to you child as often as possible.
- Read to your child as often as possible.
- Read anything that you will enjoy together e.g. picture books, story books, comics, information leaflets.
- Take turns to choose what to read and talk about why you are choosing it. If your child chooses the same favourite book 20 times in a row, that's fine!

#### Phrases to use when reading with your child:

*"Can you sound out the letters...and blend them together?"*

*"Well done, you had a go."*

*"Well done, you used expression."*

*"Did that make sense?"*

*"Good, you corrected yourself."*

*"I like how you re-read that bit to check that you got it right."*

*"Let's try that bit again."*

*"Remember to follow the punctuation"*

### Recognising the words that are written

- Knowing the sounds in written words is called phonics. Knowing the different sound and blending these together.
- More practice and help with reading you can give you child at home the better they will get.

### Understanding what they are reading

- Knowing and understanding what each word means
- Understanding what is happening in the story
- Help by reading to you child
- Talk to them about what they are reading

## How you can help your child

### 1 Talk to your child about reading

- Talk about books, street signs, TV captions, food labels, sports reports, web pages – anything and everywhere
- Talk about the sounds that letters make.
- Talk about new and interesting information you find when reading together.
- Talk about useful and interesting information you find.
- Talk about the fun you can have with sounds in games, rhymes, tongue twisters and songs
- Talk about issues and viewpoints you meet in reading

### 2 Listen to your child

- Make reading as enjoyable as possible. Make it an unhurried, comfortable and pleasant experience where there is time to explore the book and the ideas or information that it contains.
- if your child has read a longer book, magazine or other material, independently, ask them to read you a part they find funny, scary or interesting.

## Things to do when listening to your child reading

If they find a word difficult:

- Give them time to try and work it out; don't hurry.
- Encourage them to sound out the letters and blend them together from left to right
- if it seems too difficult, just tell them what the word is.

### Before your child reads

Talk about what the book is about

### While your child reads

Sometimes ask your child "What do you think will happen next?"

### After your child reads

Ask your child "What did you think about...?" or "Tell me more about..."