



# Literacy Parent Information

## Evening

### Helping your child at home

#### Reading at home



Children need a lot of practice to develop their reading skills to the point of fluency. Ten minutes of daily reading at home with a supportive adult can make all the difference. This will enable children to demonstrate how to apply their letter-sound knowledge to reading simple text. Reading at home should be a **successful and positive experience**. Home readers will be sent home that are a comfortable, independent level for your child. If it is turning into a very stressful time, please do consult your child's class teacher for advice.

While getting children to read is important don't forget about reading to them, with them and presenting reading as an enjoyable experience.

#### Home reading tips



**Be patient** Don't 'rescue' your child straight away when they are stuck on a word. Try this instead.....

- What do you think the word might be?
- Re read the sentence and see if you can work it out
- Let's look at the picture to see if that helps
- Try s-t-r-e-t-c-h-i-n-g out the sounds to see if you can sound it out

#### **Things to remember**

- Let your child know that you enjoy this time together
- Be seen as a reader yourself
- Encourage borrowing books from your local and school library

#### 5 do's for successful home reading



**Do- make predictions-** Look at the title and the front cover and ask your child to predict what the story might be about. Stop at certain points in the story and ask your child to predict what might happen next.

**Do- ask questions-** What was your favourite part of the story? Was there anything you did NOT like about the book? Who were the characters? How would you describe the characters?

**Do- retell the story-** Ask your child to tell you what happened in the beginning of the story, what happened in the middle of the story, what happened at the end of the story?

**Do- make connections with the text-** Ask your child if they've ever known anyone like the main character, has something like that ever happened to you. Eg-Were you ever scared to try something new?

**Do- encourage them to ask you questions-** Were there any words that you didn't understand in the book? Is there something in the book that made you curious?