

Reading with your child

In these films you will see some of the reading strategies that adults can use when listening to a child read.

When reading with your child try to do some of these things (Do not attempt to do all of them in one sitting!)

- Talk about the front cover – what is the book called? What do you think the story will be about? Who is the author? Have we read books by this person before? Who is the illustrator.
- Inside the book – if its non-fiction is there a contents page? What will we find out in the book?
- Look at the pictures. Identify the characters.
- Parent points to the words of the story as child reads.
- Ask child questions about the story – why do you think _____ did that? How does _____ feel? What do you think will happen next?
- Relate the story to personal experiences – have you been to ? Have you done?
- Ask questions about vocabulary. What does this word mean?
- Talk about the layout of the story – eg Why has the author written this word in big letters? What are speech bubbles? How do we know which speech bubble to read first etc.
- To help engage a child with the story and help the flow of the story you can always read alternate pages.

When a child gets stuck on a word

- Can they say the sound of the sound of the initial letter/letters?
- Can they see a small word within the word eg in recorder they might see “or”
- What does it end with? eg “ing” or “ed”
- Encourage them to look at the picture for clues
- Encourage them to read to the end of the sentence and then go back to see if they can predict what the word might be.
- As a general rule, if a child gets stuck on 5 or more words per page, then the book may be too difficult.

Finally,

If your child is tired and reading becomes a battle STOP! It will never become a pleasurable experience if you have to force reading.