



Reading with your Child



Read for 10 minutes a day.

Find a suitable time and place, a time that works for you e.g. after dinner or at bedtime; a comfortable quiet place if possible.

Top Ten Tips for Parents/Guardians

1. Find a quiet comfortable corner with no distractions-turn off mobile phones and the TV.
2. Show a positive attitude towards books and reading.
3. Take an interest in different children's authors.
4. Read to or with your child everyday at a set time if possible. Enrol and encourage your child to visit the local library once a week...
5. Read some of the books your child enjoys so you can discuss them with him/her. Recognise and praise your child's efforts in reading.
6. Encourage your child to read articles / headlines in newspapers, magazines or in digital media-on line with parental supervision. Discuss ideas and points of view proposed by newspaper articles etc.
7. Encourage your child to read to younger brothers/ sisters.
8. Allow your child to choose his /her own reading material. *Find the right level book for your child, too easy will bore them and too difficult will discourage them. Use the five finger rule-there should be no more than 5 new words your child is unfamiliar with on a page. More than 5 new words means the text is too difficult.* Encourage your child to guess unknown words.
9. Encourage your child to read for information – timetables / weather forecasts / menus
10. Encourage your child to try and guess what is going to happen next.

Paired Reading/Shared Reading:

If your child lacks confidence to read alone try **paired reading**. There are different types of paired reading-try them all to see which works for you and your child.

Assisted reading: Read a part of the text and the child takes over at an agreed point-read every second paragraph or every second page. If your child comes to an unknown word, you give them 4 seconds and then read the word for them.

Chorus reading: Parent and child read aloud together. Listen carefully so you know that your child is able to read with you most of the time.

ECHO reading: You read the sentence and then you and the child read the sentence together. Finally the child reads the sentence alone. This is useful if your child is experiencing significant difficulties.

If a child is reading without **expression** try asking them to read the same paragraph again but with feeling. Reading and acting out lines is a great way to build fluency. This can be great fun if you really exaggerate and use different accents.

In school, your child will be exposed to the following strategies. You could try some of these ideas at home.

Questions to ask before, during and after reading:

- Start with a **conversation** about the book. Discuss the book, the title, the pictures.
- **Predicting:** What do you think this book is about? What do you think will happen next? Why do you say that?

During reading: Making Connections:

- Can you make a connection between this story and something that happened to you? Does this remind you of another book/story/film?

Visualising:

- Making a picture in your head as you read can help understand the text better. Could you draw a picture of what you've read? Discuss the sights, sounds, smells, taste and touch of the images in their minds created by the story.

Declunking:

- If your child is stuck on a word, give them time then..... Help them break it up and sound it out
- Read the sentence before and after the word to help "guess" the word.

Seeking Clarification:

- During reading children can struggle to make sense of what they are reading. They need to stop and think, reread a paragraph, read on and see if they can make sense.
- You can help them to make sense of the story ***by talking about what is happening, explaining and asking questions.***

Questioning:

- Your child can start to ask questions about the story and what is happening. Now that you have read this far, have you any questions about the story up to now? I wonder why...?/Why do you think.....? Who? What? Where? When? What did that mean?

Inferring:

- Sometimes the reader needs to make inferences. Using the clues in the story get the child to make a judgement or deduction. ***"After reading that what do you think? It could mean that...."***

Vocabulary:

- Introducing new words that the children may not hear spoken daily is important. Children may have a "Word a Day/Night" for homework. Encourage them to use the word in their daily chat and discussion.
- When reading ask them to look for clues in the text that might help them to figure out what an unfamiliar word means.

These activities can be used throughout the reading process in any order where appropriate.

Resources:

www.seomraranga.com (Classroom novels: List of novels from South County Dublin Libraries)

St. Molaga's N.S. Website: www.stmolaga.scoilnet.ie Check out links on our blog to useful sites/resources

www.visuwords.com (On line dictionary and thesaurus)

www.helpmykidlearn.ie