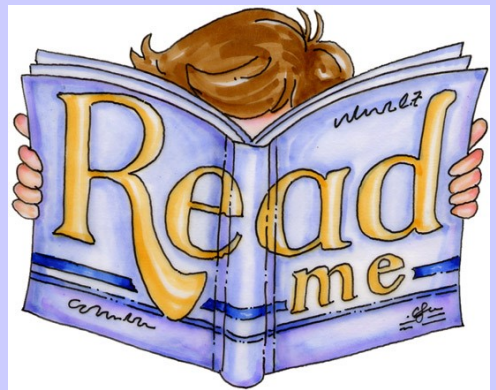


Learning to Read

Help your
child become
a reader



We believe that reading is the key to successful learning in all areas of the curriculum. Our aim is for children to read for information and pleasure.

To encourage children to become independent readers, we use a range of activities and children receive individual, small and class group sessions. We really appreciate the practise you do at home and your support in encouraging your child to become a more confident and fluent reader. This leaflet gives some practical ideas and explains how you can help your child at home.

How children learn to read

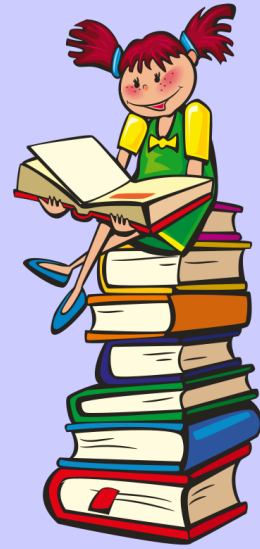
Learning to read is like trying to crack a code. Children should be encouraged to look for different clues to help them understand what they are reading. Learning individual words is important, but they are really aiming to work out a full message.



At first you LEARN to READ then you READ to LEARN!



Becoming a reader



How can you help?

When you hear your child read encourage them to use the following strategies to decode words:

- Pictures
- Meaning of the text
- Length of words
- Word knowledge
- Phonic knowledge (sounding words out)

Reading Practise

The aim is to make reading an enjoyable experience, but consistency is also essential if progress is to be made.

Try to:

- Practise regularly
- Allocate quality time during the day for reading
- Use a comfortable and quiet area
- Make activities fun and interesting



Becoming a reader



Confidence and Motivation

This can be developed through:

- Re-reading familiar books
- Listening to adults reading aloud
- Reading children's own pieces of writing
- Recording children reading aloud
- Listening to audio stories
- Sharing a book
- Telling them the word, especially if it is non-decodable

Phrases to use – prompts and praise

"Good for you, you had a go."

"Well done you used expression."

"Great, you corrected yourself."

"Good try, but did it make sense?"

"Good try, but did that sound right?"

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

"Let's try reading that word again."

"Don't forget to look at the punctuation."

"Listen and I will read this sentence."

Remember to give lots of praise and be specific

Becoming a reader



Things to do

- Talk about books and pictures
- Explain what the book is about
- Ask the child “What might happen next?”
- Ask the child to talk about what has already happened
“Which words did you like?” “What do you think about that?” “Tell me about....”
- Encourage children to use expression in their voice
- If children have difficulty with certain words write the words on a card so they can be practised
- Make a game out of the common words used in reading
- Visit the library
- Have a story at bedtime
- Write your own stories together
- Read a variety of texts – comics, books, websites, fiction, non-fiction, magazines, word-less books, menus.
- **Enjoy your amazing child as they learn to read**

