

# Tips for Successful Home Reading

The purpose of Home reading is to gain meaning from print and ultimately enjoy reading.

Some tips for your shared book experience with your child:

- ★ Be aware that your child has chosen the book and it may be difficult
- ★ If the book is too difficult read it to your child first, or let your child use the pictures to make up the story
- ★ Let your child sit close to you and allow your child to hold the book.
- ★ Sit together in a quiet, comfortable place away from distractions and the T.V.
- ★ Take the emphasis away from 'correctness' and place it on enjoyment
- ★ Remember that sounding out is only useful for some words
- ★ Remember don't make your child think he/she is in a competition with others
- ★ It is important to read silently and out aloud
- ★ It is not necessary to change books daily, students may continue to read a book from the previous night or may choose to reread a book they have previously enjoyed.

## A recipe for reading with your child:

- ★ Talk about the front cover, title, the author, illustrator & relate to any personal experiences. *eg remember that time **we** went to the farm*
- ★ Allow your child to preview the book and then talk together about the pictures or interesting words
- ★ Let your child begin to read the book. If too difficult join in and read with or to your child.
- ★ Use the prompting tips for working out a word or if the word read doesn't make sense
- ★ Discuss the story after the reading using the suggested questions.
- ★ Praise your child. Tell your child how well he/she reads and how much you enjoyed listening

## Prompting During Reading

### Stuck on a word:

- ★ Wait 5 seconds
- ★ Tell the child the meaning of the word
- ★ Ask the child to reread the sentence
- ★ Ask the child to reread the sentence put in blank and read on
- ★ Look at the beginning of the unknown word. Reread the sentence putting in the beginning sound and read on
- ★ Tell the child the word

### The Mistake Doesn't make Sense:

- ★ Wait 5 seconds
- ★ Ask the question – *Does that make sense? or Can you/we say that?*
- ★ Ask the child to look closely at the word it means .....
- ★ Ask the child to reread the sentence, put in blank and read on
- ★ Look at the beginning of the unknown word. Reread the sentence putting in the beginning sound and read on
- ★ Tell the child the word

### The Mistake makes Sense

- ★ Wait 5 seconds
- ★ When the child finishes the sentence ask him/her to '*Look closely at this word*'
- ★ Look at the beginning of the word
- ★ Tell the child the word

### After reading the text you could ask your child the following questions:

- ★ Who were the characters? Which was your favourite? Why? How could you describe this character?
- ★ Was there anything about the book you did not like?
- ★ Could you re-read your favourite piece?
- ★ Could you think of another ending?
- ★ Did you come across any unusual words? Can you find them?
- ★ Are there any words whose meaning you do not know?
- ★ Can you retell what happened in the story?
- ★ Did you enjoy reading the book? Why/Why not?

## WHAT TO READ?

Don't restrict your child's reading to only books. Provide the chance to read other types of reading material such as:

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|---------------------|----------------------------|---|
| ★ Magazines         | ★ Cooking Recipes          | ★ Diaries                               |
| ★ Comics            | ★ Computer Adventure Games | ★ Reference material                    |
| ★ Poetry Books      | ★ Letters                  | ★ Atlases                               |
| ★ Newspapers        | ★ Picture Books            | ★ Maps (road maps, street directories)  |
| ★ Internet websites |                            | ★ Instructions for games, machines etc. |

