

HEARING YOUR CHILD READ – SOME TIPS



Make time to listen to your child read.

- ❖ Sit comfortably together and make sure you limit distractions such as the television.
- ❖ Before reading, look at the cover or illustrations together and discuss what the book might be about. If your child struggles with unknown difficult words, you might look through the book and point out and give any words which you anticipate may be a problem. This will help your child to read more fluently.
- ❖ When listening to actual reading, don't rush to correct mistakes unless it significantly alters the meaning. If your child falters over a difficult passage, you can help by reading aloud alongside them until a simpler section is reached.
- ❖ Help your child to anticipate words by focusing on the initial sound of the word and using context as a cue.
- ❖ Offer to read character parts yourself. Encourage your child to put expression into the reading, to attempt "voice" characterization to bring them to life.
- ❖ After reading, encourage your child to tell you about what they have read. Ask questions about what they say and try to get them to express what they think and what opinions they have formed about characters and the story.
- ❖ Whilst hearing your child read is extremely important, remember that children benefit enormously from also hearing you read. A child who may be struggling with a story can have it brought to life by an adult reading fluently and with expression.
- ❖ Always praise and comment on progress, however small. Encouragement is the key to success. Communicate your enjoyment at listening to your child read.