




Reading is an integral and indispensable part of everyday life. Regular reading brings many benefits for all children. It:

- creates a stronger relationship between children and parents /carers
  - improves basic speech skills
  - Improves communication skills
  - enhances the mastery of language
  - promotes more logical thinking skills
  - enhances concentration and discipline
  - Is a foundation skill for all learning
  - Can become a lifelong enjoyable leisure skill
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- A cartoon illustration of a young boy with dark hair and glasses, wearing a white shirt, holding a large red book open and reading it. The book is positioned in front of his chest, and he is looking down at it with a focused expression. The background is plain white.



Here are some **top tips** to reading that will help you make the reading experience as **successful, meaningful and enjoyable** as possible for our children.

**Do:** 

- Create a special place and time when you can read together without being interrupted
- Read often and make reading a daily activity
- Enjoy reading together. If neither of you are enjoying it, try again another time
- Make it fun! Give characters funny voices, engage with the pictures

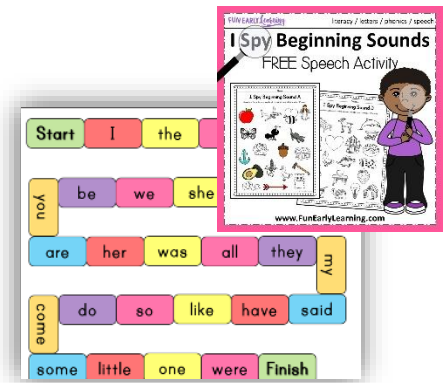


- Use reading to inspire drawings, new stories and craft activities
- Make sure you are seen reading – keep book magazines at easy reach
- Follow the approach has been assessed to be best for your child, such as phonics
- Keep reading activities relatively brief and fast-paced

- Begin reading with what your child already know or what they are interested in
- Know what you want your child to achieve before you start, such as being able to point to all the pictures of a dog. Make sure your child knows this too!
- Use real objects, emojis, GIFS, photos to help your child understand and to make it fun



- Connect reading with writing
- Ask your child's teacher for information and advice about reading approaches and how best to support your child with their reading
- Play games together. Can you find words beginning with...?; How many ... can you see?; I spy with my little eye... , Where's ...?
- Ask questions about the story – Why did it happen?; What do you think will happen next?



## Get reading...

It doesn't just have to be story books!



It can also be..., reference books, poems, nursery rhymes, song lyrics, newspapers, magazines, food labels, websites, menus, apps, road signs, catalogues, leaflets, tube maps, shopping lists, kindles, TV titles, text messages, etc. etc.! Also reading together doesn't just have to be at home for homework or reading time. Make it meaningful and fun whilst you're out and about too!



Don't: **X**



- Be boring!
- Insist that every letter in every word is sounded out. Reading is so much more than just recognizing that a cluster of letters create individual words!;
- Interrogate your child about the meaning;
- Rush through the book from start to finish – enjoy the getting there together!;
- Nit-pick! If your child makes a mistake decide if, when and how it is important to correct them. No one likes to be corrected all the time and this might stop the flow of reading.

