

The act of listening to your child read:

As a parent, you are your child's first and most important teacher. Reading aloud to children is the best way to get them interested in reading. Spending time with word games, stories, and books will help your child.

1. Find a place to sit together that suits you both
2. Try to read for at least 5 to 10 minutes a day and once over the weekend. Encourage it as a pleasurable experience.
3. Find some time to talk about the book as well as reading it.



4. Read to your child. You can help your child to understand the emphasis of particular parts of the story.

6. Do not say the book is 'too easy' or 'too hard'. Children need a range of reading materials. Any 'easy' book helps them to relax with reading. A difficult book can be read to your child. Both are important.

7. If your child misreads a word without changing the meaning, e.g. 'Dad' for 'Father', accept it. If they hesitate, repeat a word or leave one out, say nothing provided the meaning is not lost. If they say a word which does change the meaning, or they are simply stuck, you can help them by;

- a. Pointing to the picture if it is relevant
- b. Asking a question to remind them of the context, e.g. 'Where did they say they were going?'
- c. Re-reading the sentence up to the unknown word to remind them of the context
- d. Saying or pointing to the first letter of the word
- e. Telling your child the word to avoid losing momentum
- f. If the word can be read easily by sounding out the letters, encourage them or help them to do this

