

# Reading at Home

Your child will bring home reading books from school to practise reading with you at home. Try and listen to your child read for 5-10 minutes **everyday**.

We give the children books that contain a 'focus sound' that they have recently been taught, or that they are finding difficult to remember. Once the children are able to confidently read words containing their 'focus sound', a new 'focus sound' will be highlighted.

We ask that the children read their reading books **3 times** to help develop their confidence and fluency.

1

**First read:** look at the front cover, title and pictures throughout the book. What can you see? I wonder what is happening here? Can you spot any sounds you know? Can you spot any tricky words?

**This will encourage a dialogue and interest about the book without the pressure of reading it.**

2

**Second read:** encourage your child to sound out the words. They may need you to model segmenting the words at speed in order for them to hear the blend. Does your child recognise any tricky words? Encourage and model re-reading sentences from the beginning so that the 'flow' is not lost.

3

**Third read:** can your child remember any of the words without having to sound them out? Can they read confidently and fluently? Do they understand what is happening in the story? Can they add expression?

**Remember to use the Reading Record Books to document the reading your child does at home. Let us know how they got on. Did they remember the focus sound? Were they able to segment the sounds? Were they able to blend? Did they recognise any tricky words? What did they struggle with?**

# Top Tips!

- 1 Encourage your child to point to the words/sounds as they read—this will help them track where they are.
- 2 Keep a sound mat nearby so that your child can refer back to different sounds or tricky words if necessary.
- 3 Discuss the meaning of any new words as this will help with comprehension of the text.
- 4 Encourage your child to think of alternative words, e.g. can you think of another word for big? This will help to develop vocabulary.
- 5 Never let your child see that you are frustrated, make sure to use lots of positive praise for their efforts.
- 6 Spend 5-10 minutes a day listening to your child read. Your child may not have the concentration span to complete the whole book—it's ok to read a few pages a day.
- 7 Enjoy the quality time spent reading with your child!

If you read just **one** book  
a day to your child, they will  
have been read **1825** books  
by their 5th birthday.

Every Day Counts.  
Every Book Counts.

## CVC words

Words with a 'Consonant-Vowel-Consonant' structure.

**Example:** cat/dog/hat

## digraph

Where two letters are written to represent one unit of speech sound.

**Example:** 'shop' starts with the digraph /sh/

## trigraph

Where three letters are written to represent one unit of speech sound.

**Example:** 'bright' contains the trigraph /igh/

## tricky word

A word that cannot be sounded out. These words are learnt by sight.

**Example:** the/go/she

## segmenting

Breaking up a decodable word into its individual sounds.

**Example:** sun can be segmented into the following sounds s/u/n

## blending

Putting individual sounds together in order to read/say a word.

**Example:** h/a/t = hat