

Reading Tips



Read books other than a school reading book.

Read picture books, simple texts or tricky books you think your child might enjoy.

Visit the library.

Look for book banding.

Flick through the book to see if there are any words your child will know.



Types of Text

Picture Books

Comics

Graphic Novels

Before Reading



Talk about the title of the story, the author and the illustrator.

Look at the picture on the cover and chat about who might be in the story and what it might be about.

Make predictions about the text.

During Reading



Stop at different parts of the story to check that your child understands certain words and phrases.

Point out exclamation marks and how they help with expression.

Look for words that rhyme and let your child guess what the next rhyming word might be.

After Reading



Ask your child lots of questions about the story.

What happened in
the story?

What did they like
or dislike about it?

Would they change
the ending?

What would they
change about it?

Would they read
another book by
the same author?



Talking and Listening

Talking and listening is part of all curricular areas in school.

Opportunities for talking and Listening include:

- Sharing news and stories;
- Group and partner work;
- Explaining tasks;
- Asking and answering questions;
- Reading aloud;
- Performing at assembly or in a school show.

Developing Listening Skills



It is important that children can take turns when talking with others.

Encourage your child to show good listening skills by looking at the person who is talking.

Help your child ask relevant questions about what people are saying.

Give your child two-part instructions to follow.

Involve your child in activities and let them give instructions to you.

Developing Talking Skills



Encourage your child to speak in sentences and use joining words to develop their sentences.

Help them speak clearly and pronounce sounds correctly. Repeat how you say something and show the shape your mouth makes for certain sounds.

Develop vocabulary using a range of nouns and adjectives during play. Give examples of words they can use, e.g. speedy car.

Help your child talk about order using language like before, after, next, yesterday and tomorrow.



Talking and Listening

Use everyday opportunities to develop talking and listening skills.

Spend time with your child talking about and listening to:

- Songs and rhymes;
- Films, TV and online videos;
- What has happened in their day.

Talking and Listening Through Play



Encourage your child to talk through imaginative play.

Dolls, cars, animals, castles and dressing-up clothes are all fun ways to encourage your child to create stories through play.

Chat to your child as they are playing, ask questions about their games; join in and have fun!

Writing Development



- Letter formation
- Simple words
- Spaces between words
- Spell familiar words correctly
- One sentence with a capital letter and full stop

Writing Through Play

Encourage your child to write as part of their play.

They could:

- Take an order at a café
- Be the teacher
- Write comics or stories as an author



Writing Stories



Encourage your child to use their imagination to create their own stories.

Let them talk about ideas and write down their sentences for them.

Get your child to draw pictures of parts of their story.

Draw characters in the story and write simple words to describe them.

Sentences



Children are working towards writing sentences with capital letters, spaces between words and full stops.

Encourage your child to write a simple sentence and check their own work for the capital letter, full stop and finger spaces.

Use a highlighter to scribe their sentence and let them overwrite the words.

Writing

Make writing fun!

- Write through play
- Use lots of different tools to write
- Write your child's ideas down for them
- Draw pictures to tell stories

