

Early Years Foundation Stage

Developing a Reader

It is important that your child experiences books and stories. Having a story read to them every day will significantly support their reading and language development. This can be a bedtime story that they sit and listen to and then talk about afterwards.

Your child gets a library book every week to share at home with you. This is a story for them to listen to and talk about afterwards. The more they hear the same story will support them with being able to retell the story. After they have had a story a few times, give them the book to read to you. They can use the pictures to make up the story as they retell it.



Top tips for reading:

- Make sure there are no other distractions in the room and turn off electronic devices.
- Let your child get comfy so they can sit and concentrate on the book and see the words and pictures.
- **Introduce the book** and the pictures first (but not the ending) - What might it be about? Who is in the book? Where is it set? How might the story end? Teach your child the meaning of any new and unfamiliar words/vocabulary they may encounter in the book to help them to understand it.
- **Read the book**
- **Discuss the book** - Did you enjoy the story? What was their favourite part? Who was in the story? Where was it set? Was it a funny or happy or sad story?

If you and your child are eager to do more reading together then why not try some of the following ideas to make reading fun:

- Reading instructions for cooking, building furniture, using toys etc.
- Going on a family walk and reading road signs, shop names, house numbers etc.
- Visiting and joining your local library.
- Looking up a favourite topic on the internet.
- Reading books or magazines from home.
- Reading cards, letters and catalogues.

If you have any questions or queries about your child's reading then do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

