



Homework help



Reading

As a parent you have an important part to play in helping your child to learn to read.

Here are some tips on how you can help to make this a positive experience.

1. Choose a quiet time

Set aside a quiet time with no distractions usually 10 - 15 minutes is usually long enough.

2. Make reading an enjoyable experience

Sit with your child and if you find that your child loses interest then do something different.

3. Maintaining the flow of reading aloud

If your child mispronounces a word do not interrupt immediately and instead allow for the opportunity for self-correction. It is better to tell a child some unknown words to maintain the flow rather than insisting on trying to build them all up from the sounds of the letters. If your child does try to 'sound out' words, encourage the use of letter sounds rather than 'alphabet names'.

4. Be positive

If your child says something nearly right, boost their self confidence with constant praise. Don't say 'No. That's wrong,' but 'Let's read it together' and point to the words as you say them.

6. Regular practice at home

Try to read with your child on most school days. 'Little and often' is best.

7. Talk about the books

There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. It is just as important is being able to understand what has been read.

Always talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part or characters. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.