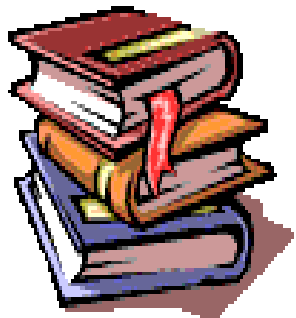


## Helping Younger Children:

Encourage the child to:

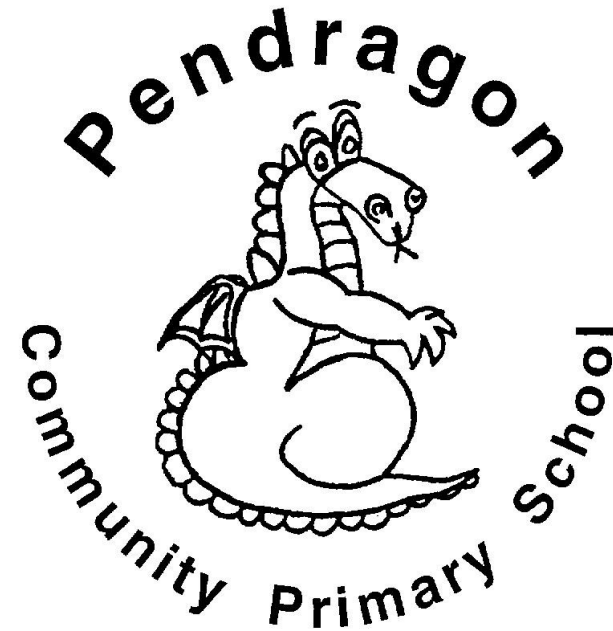
- ★ Look at the cover and suggest what the book will be about.
- ★ Ask them to find the *title, author and illustrator's names*.
- ★ Talk about the pictures – there is often another story within them!
- ★ Say what they think will happen next – allow plenty of time for discussion before turning over the page.
- ★ "Read" or tell you the story again afterwards.
- ★ Tell you their favourite part of the story and why they liked it.
- ★ Encourage them to read anything e.g. – books, labels, signs, comics, magazines, and websites.

## Helping Confident Children:



- ★ As children become older and gain confidence in reading they become ready to move on to longer and more challenging books.
- ★ At this stage you can help develop their understanding of what they are reading. Talk about the meaning of new words with them, discuss the characters and what is happening in the story etc.
- ★ Encourage them to predict what will happen next and to empathise with the main characters.

# PENDRAGON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Supporting Learning at Home

# READING



## Reading with your child:



### Introduction:

There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. It is also important to understand what has been read. Always talk to the child about the book they are reading; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.



### Some suggestions:

- Keep reading time relaxed, comfortable and pleasurable, in a quiet corner, with the TV turned off.
- Read books to your child and model being a storyteller. Use lots of expression and different voices for the characters.
- When a child doesn't know a word, ask them to try and work it out by reading the phonemes (sounds) in order.
- If a child misreads a word, encourage him or her to say the correct word - use lots of praise and encouragement, and avoid criticism. It is important that the child becomes more confident with reading.
- Remember that talking about reading is very important, so if your child is sometimes reluctant to read aloud, discussing a book will also help to develop skills.
- Talk with your child about the book they are reading. What is it about? Do they like it? What has happened so far? What do they think will happen next?
- Talk about the pictures. Pictures help children to understand the words.
- Discuss the characters and the words and phrases used by the author.

## Be Positive!



If a child says something nearly right to start with, that is fine, don't say 'No. That's wrong,' allow them the opportunity to self-correct and encourage them to try unfamiliar words by:

- ✓ Sounding them out (encourage the use of sounds –phonemes - rather than 'alphabet names').
- ✓ Breaking the word into parts e.g. hos/pit/al.
- ✓ Reading the rest of the sentence and choosing a word that would make sense.
- ✓ Thinking of words that look familiar.
- ✓ Pointing to a picture, if this helps with meaning.



*NB:* if it is a word which makes no difference to the meaning, (for example 'home' instead of 'house' or 'water' instead of 'sea'), it is usually best to ignore it.

Also, it is better to tell a child some unknown words to maintain the flow rather than insisting on them trying to build them all up from the sounds of the letters. If your child is really struggling, take over the reading yourself and encourage them to follow the words – make sure you let the teacher know too.

Boost a child's confidence with constant praise for even the smallest achievement.

## How long should they read for?



- 🕒 Read with them for about 5-10 minutes (each day if you can), depending on his/her concentration span. Remember to include time to talk about what they have read.