

# Top tips for supporting reading at home

## Find a quiet place with no distractions.

Look at the front cover (Day 1)

Talk about what you and your child can see

What might be happening?

Point to the characters. How might they be feeling? I wonder why?

Point to the title as you read it. Now you know the title of the book, what other thoughts do you have?



Inside the book (Day 1)

Spend time talking through the pictures.

Turn the pages together, allowing time for your child to look at each page and respond. Don't feel like you must question all the time. Just enjoy discussing the pictures together. This will help your child look for meaning and begin to build an awareness of the book ahead of reading.

As they learn phonics, your child might be able to find new words using the initial phoneme. For example, there might be a mouse in the picture and the word mouse within the text, so your child might be able to find 'mouse' by searching for a word that begins with 'm'.

Time to read (Day 2) (Day 3)

If the book does not have any words or maybe just a few, then simply use the pictures to make up a story. You could tell your story then allow your child to tell their version. It might be the same as yours and that is fine. You could even ask a sibling to join in too!

If the book has words point to them as you read to your child.

As your child learns phonemes (sounds) and tricky words in school, they will begin to spot these on the page and pick out letters within words.

Please encourage this and it will build up confidence and their understanding that print carries meaning.

At the end of the book you could discuss the following: What was your favourite part? Was there anything they didn't like, if so what? Tell me about the book. Who was your favourite character? Why? Link the story to their own experiences. Can they remember when they did something similar?

Read for fluency (Day 3, 4 and 5) After the book has been read once it can be read again the next day and the morning after. Familiar books are comforting and will build confidence, resilience and fluency. After the first read together you will not need to question as much so just focus on reading the words again or telling the story better than the last time, if it is a book without any words.

Please date and comment in this reading record as soon as the book has been read. Remember to colour **one** dragon for every day you read.

Thank you for your continued support  
Happy reading!