

GOLDEN RULES FOR READING



- BOOK Make reading a time of pleasure for you both.
- BOOK Give lots of praise, success builds on success. Focus on what is right, not mistakes.
- BOOK Read books they enjoy, even if it means reading them again and again.
- BOOK Keep reading to children even after they have learnt to read independently.
- BOOK Remember - little and often is more effective than a long read once a week!
- BOOK Stop when they've had enough – reading is to be enjoyed ... it's not a punishment!
- BOOK Talk about the book to help with understanding.



**ENJOY
YOURSELVES!**

A page titled "Sharing Books With Your Child" featuring a cartoon owl reading a book, a list of tips, and a message for carers. The page is framed by a border of handprints.

**Sharing Books
With Your Child**

Sharing books is a rewarding and enjoyable activity for adults and children alike.

As a carer you can play a valuable role in encouraging children to feel confident, and develop a life-long love of books!

How to encourage your child to read

Read yourself!

Set a good example by talking about the reading you do at work and at home. Let children see that you value reading, and have reading material at home.



Keep books safe!

Have a special place to keep books. Treat them carefully and with respect so they can be read over and over again.

Visit your library—it's free!

All libraries have children's sections. As well as taking out story books, use visits to the library as a time to find books and CD ROMs about hobbies and interests.



Don't just read books!

Point out words all around you—on food packets, buses, when shopping ... Encourage children to read newspapers, TV guides, comics and magazines. Ask children to find out information from Yellow Pages, Internet, cookery books, catalogues ...

Make time to read!

Set aside a time for reading for the family — after school or before bedtime. Encourage children to read with grandparents, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles.



Try to make a regular slot of about 10 minutes to hear children read.

If children want to read silently, find time after they have read to talk about it.

How to help with reading

Be positive!

Boost children's confidence with constant praise, for even the smallest achievement. Let them know it's alright to make mistakes, and re-read together to correct errors.

Success is the key!

It's good practice to read the same books, or similar types of books, over and over again.



Until children have built up their confidence it is better to keep to familiar books. Struggling with a book which has too many unknown words means that the flow is lost, the text cannot be understood and children can easily become reluctant readers.

Give them time!

Let them have a go before you tell them the word. They should use **phonics** as their first approach, to sound out the word. You could let them use a picture clue, break the word up into smaller sections, look for small words inside longer words, read to the end of the sentence and see what word would make sense. It doesn't matter if you have to tell them the word sometimes!

ASK LOTS OF QUESTIONS!

Check they understand the story by asking them questions about what happens.



Use the pictures to explain what is happening.

If children wish to read silently, particularly as they read longer stories, just chat about their view of the story and the characters.
"What would you have done if you were ...?"
"What do you think will happen next ...?"
"Why do you think ...?"
"How do you know ...?"
"Does this book remind you of anything else you have read?"

Remember, if English is not your family's first language you can talk about books in any language.