

JAMES ELLIMAN ACADEMY

Helping at Home: Year 1 - Reading

Reading at home

Make reading fun

Reading at home should be fun and easy – something you both look forward to – a time for laughter and talk, maybe just before going to bed.

Share the reading, take turns or see whether your child wants to read or be read to today

All children like to be read to, so keep reading to them. You can read in your first language

Visit the library together and help them choose books to share

Read emails from family (under adult supervision)

Play card and board games together.

Here's a tip - talk a lot to your child while you are doing things together. Use the language that works best for you and your child.

Talk about reading

Talk about pictures in books, the characters – how they are feeling by looking at their expressions, what is happening now, what do you think is going to happen next?

Sing songs, read poems and make up rhymes together – the funnier the better

Be a role model. Let your child see you enjoying reading and talk about what you are enjoying even reading a newspaper or magazine.

Point out words on signs, shops and labels

Play word games like "I Spy" and "Simon Says..."

Make it a special time together

Reading is a great chance for you and your child to spend special time together.

Make reading:

- quiet and relaxing
- a time to sit close to your child
- 10–15 minutes without interruption, away from the TV
- an enjoyable, interesting and special time
- a time to praise your child for making an effort

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Here's some tips -

If your child is stuck on a word wait a few seconds, give them a chance to think. If they are still stuck, help them to try to work the word out by saying "read the sentence again and think what would make sense". Ask "could it be...?" (and give a word that might fit). The pictures also help them check they have got the right word. If they still can't work out the word, tell them and praise their efforts. Remember, reading should be fun.

Help your child to link stories to their own life. Remind them about what they have done when a similar thing happens in the story.

Make everyday a reading day....

Read every day with your child to engage their interest in reading for pleasure

- school books or library books, dictionaries, atlases, take away leaflets, catalogues etc

When walking to school talk to your child about words in the environment

In the car support your child to read road/motorway signs

In the shops ask them to read the labels on products or in the store