



Top Tips for engaging your child in reading

- Don't pressurize your child, make reading fun. Little and often works best.
- Enjoy reading to your child as much as possible; when they are playing, engaged in other tasks, and before bed.
- Use 'when' and 'then'. For example, "*when you have read, then you can choose a game to play*"
- Focus on your child's interests, particularly when learning a task, playing a game or engaging in an activity. For example, cooking can involve lots of reading, from finding a recipe to writing a shopping list.
- Read with your child and take turns to boost confidence. Making up or reading a play is a great idea as it can involve reading short parts of a text, taking turns etc.
- Use poems, rhymes and songs as joining in helps with prediction skills, which are vital to becoming a good reader.
- Jokes are good fun and can be read, recorded and published.
- Praise as much as possible and make the praise specific, for example, "you read the word *because* correctly..."
- Time the session so your child knows how long they are spending on each activity and they get a sense of achievement.
- Make books and games together encouraging your child/children to come up with ideas and pictures - scribe and publish for them.
- Playing games will boost confidence; choose games that involve reading, for example, making up words from each letter of your child's name, word searches, write a sentence leaving a blank for your child to complete. **There are lots of ideas on our website: <http://www.abctoread.org.uk/volunteers/resources/>**
- **Have fun together**