

Farthinghoe School



Reading with your Child

A guide to helping your child learn to read

Getting Started

- Plan a quality, quiet time to read together.
- Read little and often! This is better than a difficult half hour once a week.
- Be positive and use lots of praise.

Talking About the book

- Look at the front cover and discuss what the book might be about.
- Read the title together.
- Point out the illustrator and the author's name (your child will hear these terms used in school).
- As you read to your child point to the written word indicating left to right.

Reading strategies

- Look at the pictures. Talk about what is happening before reading the text.
- Use initial sounds, focusing on the ones learnt in school that week.
- Segment and blend.
- Break the word into chunks.
- Think of another word that looks like that word e.g. all/tall night/light

Helping your child

- Try that again
- What's the first sound?
- Sound it out.
- Does it sound right?
- Does it make sense?
- Does it sound like another word?

- Put the words together to make it sound like talking.
- Is it a tricky word? (the, was etc. cannot be phonically decoded but have to be learnt on sight). Don't let children struggle on these words; it is ok to tell them the word as this helps to develop fluency.
- Praise all efforts.

During and after reading

- Talk about the book.
- Do they like the story? Does it remind you of another story? What has happened so far? What might happen next?
- How do the characters feel?

Read, Read, Read!

- Encourage your child to look at print all around them, recognising letters and words.
- Make sure your child sees you read all kinds of texts, encouraging them to help you read recipes, directions, lists etc.

Above all reading should be an enjoyable and fun experience that your child wants to do!