

# Guide for Parents

## Reading with your child

### Enjoy it

- 📖 Make book-sharing a fun time that you both enjoy.
- 📖 Read old favourites together as well as new books.
- 📖 If your child reads to you, or joins in when you are reading to them, show them that you are proud of what they can do.
- 📖 Give your child lots of praise, encouragement and support when they read to you. Focus on what they did well, not what they did wrong. Even small successes are important.



### Make time and space



- 📖 Make reading a special part of your day. Try to find a time when you aren't busy doing other things, so you can spend 'quality time' reading together - even if it's for a few minutes.
- 📖 Try to find a quiet place away from distractions like the television or the computer.
- 📖 Try to find some time every day for reading together - 10 minutes each day is better than a long session once a week.

### Find out what they like to read



- 📖 Sometimes we read for pleasure, but we also read for a reason. Read lots of different things together - stories, information books, comics, magazines, websites, cereal packets, TV listings, instructions- anything you and your child enjoy reading or need to read.
- 📖 Let your child make his or her own reading choices sometimes. They need to develop their own personal like and dislikes. It is OK to not like some books!
- 📖 Don't worry if they choose an 'easy' or favourite book over and over again. This is normal and helps children to build their reading confidence and enthusiasm.
- 📖 Join the local library and let your child choose from the great range of books on offer.

### Talk about it

- 📖 Talking about books will help your child become more involved and interested in reading and can help them understand more.
- 📖 After you've read a book together - or anything else you choose to read - talk about it. What was it about? How did it make you feel? What did you like or not like about it? What did you learn? Spend time looking at pictures and talk about what they tell you. Never cover the pictures while sharing a book.



[www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) is a website for parents to use to help with your child's learning. It has hundreds of free e-books which you can enjoy at home together.