

How to Help

Communication & Language and Reading



Communication and Language

There are three areas of learning we assess on in the nursery:

- Understanding
- Speaking
- Listening and attention

Understanding

- Understand the use of objects
- Shows understanding of prepositions such as under, on, top, behind by carrying out an action or selecting correct picture
- Responds to simple instructions, e.g. to get or put away an object
- Beginning to understand 'why' and 'how' questions

Speaking

- Beginning to use more complex sentences to link thoughts (e.g. using and, because)
- Can retell a simple past event in the correct order
- Questions why things happen
- Uses a range of tenses (play, played, will play and playing)
- Builds up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their experiences
- Uses talk in pretending that objects stand for something else in play, e.g. ‘this box is my castle’
- Uses talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next, recall and relive past experiences.
- Uses intonation, rhythm and phrasing to make the meaning clear to others.
- Uses vocabulary focused on objects and people that are of particular importance to them.

Listening and attention

- Listens to others one to one or in small groups, when conversation interests them
- Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall
- Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories
- Focusing attention - still listen or do, but can shift attention
- Is able to follow directions (if not intently focused on own choice of activity)



Why is it important to read with your children?

Research has shown that reading is one of the most effective and inexpensive activities parents, care givers can do to support literacy. Children who are introduced to books early and read to on a regular basis do better in school.

How to help with reading

Tip 1-Talk to your child

Tell family stories about yourself, your child's grandparents, and other relatives.

Talk to your child as much as possible about things you are doing or thinking.

Ask your child lots of questions.

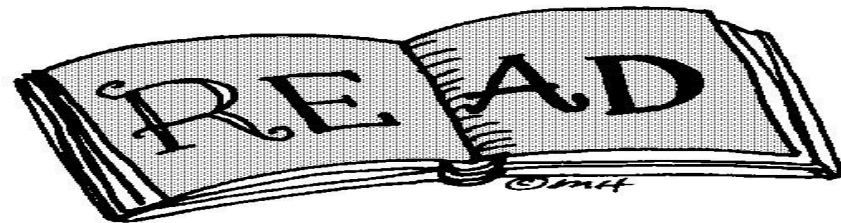
Encourage your child to tell you what he or she thinks or feels

Ask your child to tell you about his or her day

Be patient! Give your child time to find the words he or she wants to use.

Sing songs, recite nursery rhymes and encourage your child to join in.

Play rhyming and riddle games.



How to help with reading.

Tip 2 - Make reading fun

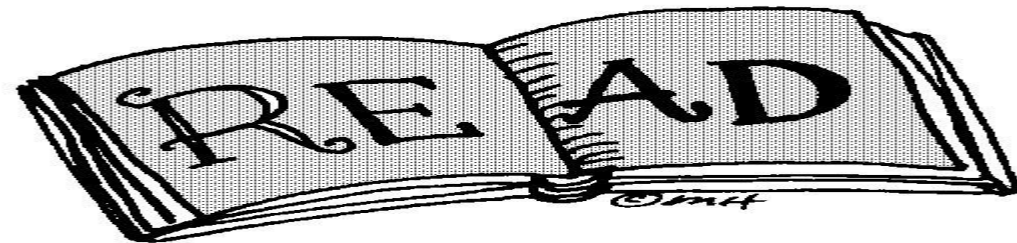
Use different voices for different characters in the story. Use your child's name instead of a character's name. Make puppets and use them to act out a story.

Re-read your child's favourite stories as many times as your child wants to hear them.

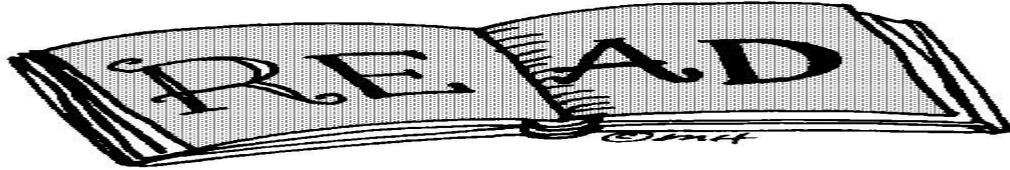
Read stories that have repetitive parts and encourage your children to join in.

Point to the words as you read them.

Read all kinds of materials-stories, poems, comics, information books etc



How to help with reading.



Tip 3-Read every day

Start reading with your child when he/she is very young.

Set aside a special time each day when you can give your full attention to reading with your child. Choose a comfortable place to read.

Choose a variety of books.

Read slowly so that your child can form a mental picture of what is happening in the story.

Praise your child for his or her ideas and participation.

When you and are child are away from home, take along books, magazines etc

Keep reading to your child even after he or she has learn to read.

How to help with reading.

Tip 4-Set an example

Read recipes, food labels etc

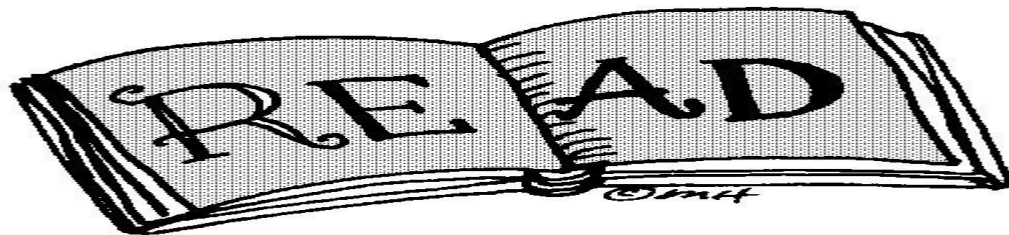
Read traffic signs and signs in stores and restaurants.

Read greeting cards, letters and email messages from family and friends.

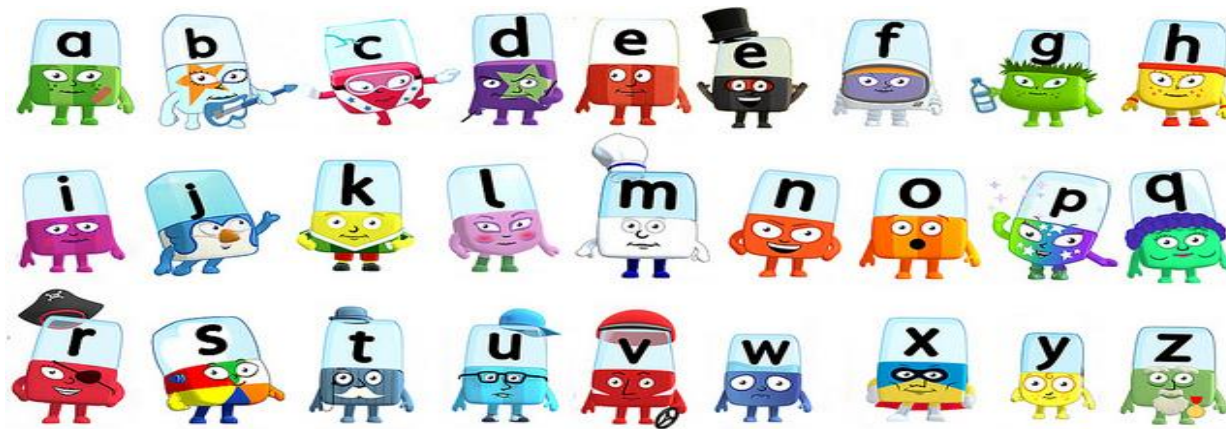
Tip 5- Talk about books

Look at the cover and title of a book with your child, and ask your child what he or she thinks might happen in the story.

Encourage your child to ask questions and to comment on the story and pictures in a book- before, during and after reading it.



Phonics



What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children the relationship between letters and sounds to form words, so they can learn to read and write.

In the nursery we follow Letters and Sounds.

We focus on the phase 1, there are different areas within phase 1:

- ▶ Environmental sounds.
- ▶ Instrumental sounds
- ▶ Body percussions
- ▶ Rhythm and rhyme
- ▶ Alliteration
- ▶ Voice sounds
- ▶ Oral blending and segmenting

Letters and Sounds



How to help with phonics at home.

- ▶ Sing nursery rhymes, songs and action rhymes.
- ▶ Add sound effects to stories.
- ▶ Music and movement
- ▶ Play guess the instrument or sound.
- ▶ Talk about sounds
- ▶ Go on listening walks
- ▶ Make up silly sentences “Happy Harry hops.”



Reading books

We will be sending reading records and books home with your children every day.

- ▶ It is important that you bring them into Nursery every day.
- ▶ Books will be changed once a week
- ▶ Try and read with your child everyday. Once your child is familiar with the story, encourage them to read it to you.
- ▶ We would like at least one comment per book

For the first term all children will be taking home library books and when they are ready they will then move onto early reading books.

- ▶ <https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/hillingdon-talks-moves-plays/>