

# *Sharing Books With Your Child*



# How children learn to read

Understanding what  
sort of book they  
are reading  
(context)

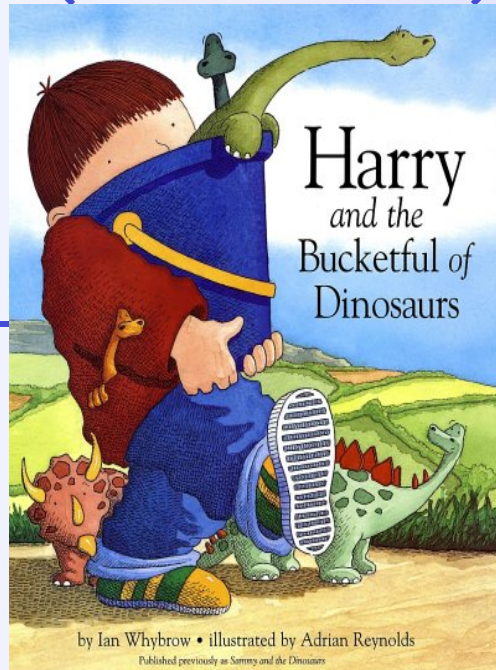
Using what they  
know about letters  
and sounds  
(phonics)

Using picture  
clues

By  
reading

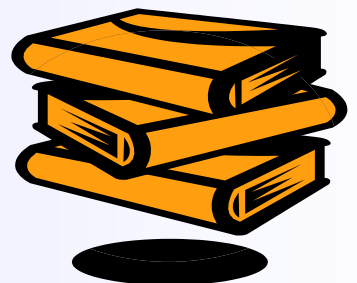
Understanding  
how sentences work

Recognising whole  
words or parts  
of words



# Top Ten Tips to Support Your Child's Reading

1. Give your child time, space and praise, whilst sharing books.
2. Read *to* your child as often as possible, especially at bedtime.
3. Talk *about* the book together.
4. Spend time looking at and talking about the illustrations.
5. Choose books together ~ visit the local library and bookshops.
6. Try to let your child see other family members reading.
7. Tell stories orally (to each other).
8. Let the child hold the book and turn the pages.
9. Take books with you wherever you go.
10. Ask '*open*' questions about the book.



# Questions parents frequently ask about reading



Q: For how long do I need to keep reading to my child ?

A: There's no need to stop reading, however confident your child may be. You need to keep showing an interest in their reading. More importantly, keep reading to your child. Don't go anywhere without a book !

Q: Do books without words still help with my child's reading ?

A: Yes, definitely, they help the child develop a sense of 'story' and help them develop a deeper understanding.

Q: Does my child need to read new and increasingly challenging books all the time ?

A: No, like you they will sometimes enjoy a relaxing read like a comic or a joke book. They may enjoy returning to an old favourite or a picture book. Just encourage the reading habit.

Q: What if my child gets stuck on a word ?

A: *Pause*, wait 10 seconds, allow them to guess.

*Prompt*, remind them of picture clues, sounds in words, reading to the end of the sentence, does it make sense ?

*Praise*, praise all attempts your child makes.

Q: How long should we read for ?

A: Short, regular, relaxed sessions are better than long tense periods.

Remember, if the session isn't going well, leave it