

Hearing Your Child Read - Top Tips!



As parents you are your child's most influential teacher with an important part to play in helping your child to learn to read.

1. **Choose a quiet time** - Set aside a quiet time with no distractions. Ten minutes is plenty.
2. **Make reading enjoyable** - Sit with your child. Try not to pressurise if he or she is reluctant. If your child loses interest then do something else.
3. **Be positive** - Boost your child's confidence with constant praise for even the smallest achievement.
4. **Success is the key** - Until your child has built up his or her confidence, it is better to keep to easier books. Struggling with a book with many unknown words is pointless. Flow is lost, text cannot be understood and children can easily become reluctant readers.
5. **Visit the Library** - Encourage your child to use the public library regularly.
6. **Regular practice** - Try to read with your child on most school days. 'Little and often' is best.
7. **Talk about the books** - talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.
8. **Variety is important** - children need to experience a variety of reading materials eg. picture books, hard backs, comics and poems.