

# Reading at home with your child



Dear parents/ carers,

We have completed some assessments and found a suitable reading book for your child. This book is wordless or has very few words, but is **very** important to your child's reading development. Early Books allow children to learn how stories work, including the order and direction in which they read, without the pressure of too many words on the page. Children will enjoy talking about the story and discussing what is happening in the pictures, which is the first step in reading. Once your child is confident at reading sounds and blending sounds to make words, they will then bring home a book with simple sentences in.

## What can I do when sharing the book with my child?

- Look at the front cover and read the title to your child. Ask them what they think the story will be about? Relate the title back to your child i.e. 'The lost gloves' have you ever lost anything? or 'Puddles' what do you do when you see a puddle?
- Allow your child to turn the pages of the book and describe what they see in the pictures.
- Take it in turns to tell a page of the story.
- Once you have finished sharing the book ask your child to retell the story in their own words.
- Did they enjoy the story? Why? What was your favourite part?
- Look at letters in words which may be in your child's name.
- Ask your child to point to different things on the page e.g. Can you point to the boat? Can you find the tree?
- Respond to your child's ideas by repeating them back to them and introducing new words to increase their vocabulary.

## What to do next?

Date and sign in your child's reading record, every time you read with them. We would also like a short comment to say how they got on. E.g "Katie struggled to talk about the story. "We talked through the pictures together." "Katie could talk about what was happening in this story." "Very pleased with how Katie was able to talk about the pictures."

## When do I need to read with my child?

It is important that you spend time little and often looking and sharing stories together rather than long periods of time looking at the whole book at once. We expect your child to read it from beginning to end, 3 times a week;

1<sup>st</sup> read – Lots of support with talking about parts of the story.

2<sup>nd</sup> read - Less support/ more confidence about what is happening on each page.

3<sup>rd</sup> read – Able to talk confidently about what is happening in the book.

## When do I send their reading book into school?

Children's reading books should be sent into school in their book bag **on a Friday**.

Thank you,

Miss McBride  
Reading lead