

## Reception Top Tips



### Reading

- Look at the cover/pictures- what might the story be about? What can you see?
- Look for tricky words in the book. Check your child knows what they say and encourage them to read tricky words by sight.
- Let children have a go at sounding out, but don't let them struggle.
- Model reading to your child.
- Look at and talk about the pictures- what information can you get from them?
- Occasionally stop and talk about what has happened already and what might happen next. Why do they think that?
- Discuss the meaning of words. Use a dictionary to get your child used to exploring words for themselves.
- Discuss alternative words, for example, 'big'. Ask your child to think of some other words that we could use instead e.g 'huge'. Use a thesaurus to help!
- Discuss feelings. What do you think the characters are feeling? Why do you think that?
- Discuss the problem in the story. What has happened, what went wrong?
- Discuss the resolution. How was the problem solved? Was there another way it could have been resolved?
- Fact or fiction? Is this book a story book or non-fiction book? How do you know?
- Encourage your child to retell the story once they have finished. What happened at the beginning/in the middle/at the end?

#### During reading

Encourage your child to use expression when they are reading, especially for the voices of the different characters

Discuss the punctuation on the page, for example, exclamation marks. Ask what are these for? What should we do when we see one?

You do not always need to read the entire book in a session. Focus on a couple of pages and talk about the story, characters and setting in detail. You might want to take it in turns so your child hears you read too.

