



## Reading at Home.



Following on from our advice offered in the last half term, we thought we would give you some more tips to help your child become a confident and competent reader.

Please don't forget those children who are regularly read to at home have a significant advantage at school. There are lots of simple ways through activities and games to help your child's early reading skills.

### Getting Children Ready for Reading.

#### Listening to stories.

From the time they are babies, you can help children to become readers by :

- \* **Sharing your enjoyment of books.** Remember these can be story books or non-fiction books, particularly for those who prefer learning about things like dinosaurs or space. You can also talk to your child about the books you enjoyed as a child – some of them will still be around today!
- \* **Reading stories and talking about the pictures.** Sometimes children notice things in pictures that we do not see or point out. Talking to them about this helps them to understand more of the story. Looking at books also helps children to see the different patterns between words and pictures.
- \* **Comparing events in books with your own shared experiences.** Children love to use their own experiences in imaginative play and the same is true of books. Shirley Hughes is one of many authors who use everyday life in her stories for children – the illustrations particularly show these situations too! We do have a large range of Shirley Hughes books in Nursery so please speak to your child's Key Person if you would like to borrow them.
- \* **Pointing out signs and logos when you go shopping.** These can be the signs on the front of the shop or the logos on the different packaging. Again, these help children to see the patterns of words. Children may even begin to notice the same letters at the start of words.

\* **Teaching them nursery rhymes and songs.** Use any opportunity to sing with your child – popular nursery and number rhymes, action songs and even songs you like to listen to on the radio, on the television or on i-Tunes via phones and i-pads. Learning rhythm within songs and music is just as important as other 'reading' activities.

These simple activities help to prepare children for reading.