

- ◆ Ask your child to choose a book - sharing books they have chosen shows you value their opinion and they are more likely to engage with the book.
- ◆ Relate the contents of the book to your child's own experiences.
- ◆ Talk to your child about the different characters in the books and their actions.
- ◆ Discuss what happens at the beginning, middle and end of the book.
- ◆ Predict what might happen next.
- ◆ Talk about the pictures and cover of the book.
- ◆ Always respond positively towards your child's reading - especially if they are finding it hard.
- ◆ It is ok to take a break and come back to reading.
- ◆ Remember to keep praising your child for trying their best with their reading.

When your child is reading and they encounter a word that is difficult for them to read, use the **three P's technique:**

### **Pause**

Try not to jump in straight away - wait and give your child enough time to try and work out the word.

### **Prompt**

If your child successfully works out the problem word, suggest they go back to the beginning of the sentence and re-read it (to recap meaning) before reading on.

If your child is unable to work out the problem word, prompt them with some quick, low-key suggestions such as:

- "try reading on, missing out the difficult word and see if that helps you work it out"
- "Look at the sound the word begins with, use that clue, and think about what may make sense here? Look at the pictures."

If prompts like these are not working simply tell your child the correct word. Try not to spend too much time prompting or your child will find it difficult to maintain the overall meaning of what they are reading.

### **Praise**

Praise your child's reading efforts and successes.

# Reading With Your Child



Tips and ideas on how to best support your child as they learn to read.



At Manor Park School we aim to foster a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards reading.

If children are to become fluent, confident readers who choose to read, they need to be encouraged to develop the necessary attitudes, as well as the skills.

What we do in school is important. What you do at home matters even more.

Children who receive regular reading support and encouragement at home not only become more successful readers but develop more positive attitudes to reading.

It is with this in mind that we hope to work in partnership with parents to develop an approach to reading which is based on pleasure and enjoyment.

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## HOW DO CHILDREN LEARN TO READ?

Children need to develop a range of skills to progress in their reading but the two most important skills for early readers are:

Word recognition - decoding skills. This is where children segment and blend letters to read whole words. For example:

**c - a - t = cat**

Language comprehension - the ability to understand what they have read, using words, pictures, punctuation and presentation of the text.



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## HELPING AT HOME

The most important thing to establish, when reading with your child, is that reading is enjoyable and rewarding.

**Use any opportunity to praise and motivate your child.**

The way that adults approach reading is an important influence on the developing ideas of our children.

Act as a role model, allowing your child to see you reading. Share your magazines, books, newspapers etc. with your child.

Establish a regular and frequent time to read with your child.

Sit in a comfortable place, well away from distractions, like the television. A short spell of reading every day - 10 minutes a day will make a real difference.

Take time over reading together. It's not important to race to the end of the book.

Join a library to extend your child's access to books and encourage a love of reading and books. It is free to join Henry Bloom Noble Library (opposite the Bus Station).

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## WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

You may practice these skills over several days using the same book.

- ◆ Remember reading should be pleasurable and relaxed.
- ◆ If your child is unhappy, hungry or over-tired find another time to read.
- ◆ Sit close together - encourage your child to hold the book and turn the pages.
- ◆ Before reading, talk about the book cover, the title, the pictures inside and discuss what the book might be about.
- ◆ Take it in turns to read - you read a page and then your child reads a page.
- ◆ Don't forget to use your voice to show emotions - children love this!
- ◆ Encourage your child to run his or her finger along the words as you read.
- ◆ Help with difficult words by building up sounds. Use the picture or the rest of the sentence as a clue.