

Go to your local library

- Take your son or daughter along to join.
- Introduce them to library books.
- Help them to choose books to take home.



Take any or all of the first steps we've suggested and your son or daughter will be well on the way to taking his or her own next steps in reading when school starts in August.

And remember that help and advice is always available from St Joseph's between now and August.

St. Joseph's Primary. First Steps in Reading.



Here are some easy fun ideas to try with your child. It is never too early to take those vital steps in reading and writing.

Make Time to Chat!

These ideas will not take more than a few minutes per day and you will both enjoy the fun of learning.

- Talk with your son or daughter
- Let them tell you how they feel
- Listen to what they're saying to you
- Always try to answer their questions
- Value their opinions
- Encourage them to ask questions



Play Word Games

- I spy
- Finding everyday things whose names start with the same letter
- Play with plastic letters
- Make letters or their name using play dough or modelling clay.



Look out for Reading

- Point out signs to your son or daughter when you go shopping.
- Point out the names of packets, signs and notices.
- (It's a short step from recognising logos and symbols, such as McDonalds, Asda or Esso, to recognising letters such as A, B and C!)

Make Reading Fun

- Share a book together
- Talk about the cover and pictures
- Read and point from left to right
- Talk about what will happen next
- Let your son or daughter see you reading
- Give them their own special books
- Encourage them to "read" the book by telling you about what's in the pictures
- Read that special book or books with them time and again



Rhyme Time

- Listening to nursery rhymes and remembering them is an enjoyable way of learning about sounds in words.
- Picking up words which rhyme, such as wall, fall and all, help children learn to read and write. And you can enjoy sharing rhymes old and new with your son or daughter.
- Listen out for radio and TV adverts. They often use rhyming jingles.