



Sharing a book with your child can be an enjoyable and rewarding experience. They can listen to how you read fluently and use expression to bring reading alive. Reading stories to your child and building this into your daily routine means you will be:

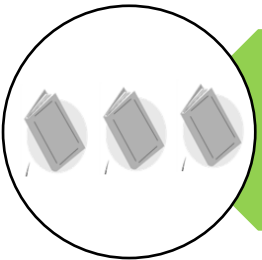
- opening up your child's mind to new and exciting worlds to explore and learn from together;
- letting your child's imagination run free;
- introducing your child to new vocabulary and meanings;
- helping your child to relax;
- having fun together!

Engaging with your child and sharing a love of reading is an experience that will stay with your child forever.



Before Reading

Find a comfortable reading spot for you and your child. Sitting your child on your **left hand side** allows you to easily access the book and support them. Start with a conversation about the front cover, the illustrations and what they already know about the subject matter.



Repeat, repeat, repeat

Reading the same story again and again will help your child get to know the story. Once they know the book well you can start to ask them questions about what is happening in the story.



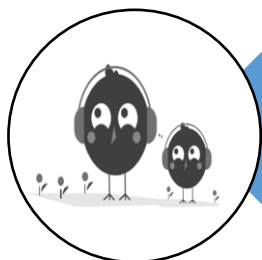
Look at the Pictures

You don't always need to read all the words in a children's book. You can tell the story in your own words using the pictures. If your child is familiar with the story, let them become the story teller and use the pictures to tell the story. Retelling a story in their own words is a great skill for children to have. It creates confidence with books and helps to develop their oral language skills.



Let them Choose

Children will be more motivated to read if they are involved in selecting the books for themselves. A bookshelf that your child can reach or a book box that they can easily access is a great idea. You can even access digital copies of books on tablets and laptops. When your child selects the books you will start to get an idea of the type of books they like best.



Listen

Listening to audiobooks can be an enjoyable and relaxing experience that you can share with your child.