

Early Years Literacy

Cloverbank Nursery



Dear Mum, Dad, Gran, Grandad, Aunt, Uncle, Sister, Brother, Carer,
Friend



This little booklet is designed to build on the good work which you do as parents and carers of your children. In particular it gives some suggestions as to:

- how you can help your child at home
- how to keep a record of your child's progress
- give you some ideas of activities you may like to do at home

**REMEMBER YOU ARE YOUR CHILD'S FIRST
AND MOST IMPORTANT EDUCATOR**

REMEMBER

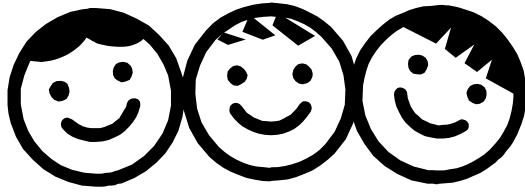
Make up games which draw your child's attention to the print they see around them.



Read stories to your child and encourage them to talk to you about them. Get big brothers or sisters to help.



Make sure they have access to a variety of reading materials.



Give your child a happy face when they can do the following:

- ❖ Knows that books have titles
- ❖ Opens books the right way up
- ❖ Knows where the story begins
- ❖ Turns one page at a time
- ❖ Knows where the story ends
- ❖ Understands what a word is
- ❖ Points to print and asks what it says
- ❖ Asks for a story
- ❖ Has a favourite story
- ❖ Can retell a favourite story
- ❖ Enjoys looking at books
- ❖ Can guess what happens next in a story
- ❖ Pretends to read a book on their own

Teach your child Nursery Rhymes and play Rhyming Games

Reading stories to your child and sharing books with them is an important way in which you can help their reading development.

Do not worry if your child keeps choosing the same favourite book or comic for stories. This will help them remember the story and learn some of the words.

- ❖ You are never too young to enjoy a story (or too old!)

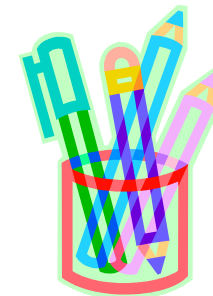


- ❖ Do not think it is only books you have to share with your child. Let your child share your magazine, newspaper, or cook book.



- ❖ Talk to your child about the story, the cover of the book or the people in the story.

Give your child plenty of encouragement and remember, it should be relaxed and enjoyable for both of you.



Experiences of writing also help children to learn to read. Their awareness of letter shapes and words develop as they attempt to copy signs, labels or letters.



How can we encourage this?

- ❖ *By providing lots of opportunities for children to draw and scribble.*
- ❖ *Watching adults write encourages children to copy them. Let your child help you write out your shopping list, write birthday cards etc.*
- ❖ *Staple a few blank pieces of paper together into a book and encourage your child to write their own story.*
- ❖ *Praise them for any attempts they make even if it only looks like a scribble to you.*
- ❖ *Perhaps you could keep some examples of writing. You will notice a big improvement over time.*

Make sure they have access to writing and drawing materials.

What nursery rhymes does your child know?

Nursery rhymes and rhyming games help draw your child's attention to the sounds in words. Research has shown that this is very important in learning to read.

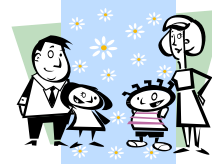
- ❖ Teach your child nursery rhymes and rhyming songs.
- ❖ Make some mistakes and see if your child can notice them (eg "Humpty Dumpty sat on a chair").
- ❖ Make up and play rhyming games (eg "I spy with my little eye something that sounds like hat")



Another way to ensure your child recognises different syllables is to get them to clap out the syllables in their name

eg NA + TASH + A = NATASHA

Ask your child to draw a picture of his/her family or gran or best friend, etc.



Can he/she write their own name?



Reading is one of the most important skills your child will learn.

Print around us

An important way in which children learn about literacy is through noticing and beginning to recognise some of the many signs and examples of print that they see round about them in their every day lives.



When you are out and about with your child play a game and ask your child to identify familiar signs.

Perhaps you would like to note below some of the signs and words your child already knows.