



## Did you know?

Research has shown that reading every day for 10 minutes is the best way to help a child learn to read and improve their reading!



Sharing a book with your child is fun! It's a time to laugh together, explore together and spend time together. But here are a few tips on how you can support your child as they begin to discover the magic of books.

Here are some more tips to help you enjoy story time together:

- Ask your child what they would like to read. They may feel more interested in the story if they have chosen it.
- Make the reading environment comfortable for you and your child. This could be sat at a table, curled up on the sofa or even in bed.
- Visit the local library! There are plenty of new books to discover there and they are all completely free to borrow!
- Encourage your child to hold the book and turn the pages, even if you are reading it to them. This will develop their understanding of how a book is read from left to right.
- Tell the story through the pictures! Sometimes your child might not be sure of the words in the book that you are reading. Ask them to tell you the story through pictures - this will develop their story telling skills and book related vocabulary.
- Read a range of books, including non-fiction books! This will help children to understand that they can also learn new things from books.

As you read, ask your child questions about what has been read to check their understanding.

You could ask:

- Where is the title? Where is the blurb?
- What does this new word mean?
- How characters might be feeling?
- How they might feel if they were that character?
- What has already happened in the story?
- What might happen next?
- Who is your favourite character and why?



As well as a range of story books and picture books, it is also important to expose your child to non-fiction texts. Whilst fiction is made up, non-fiction contains facts and real-world information. Texts such as newspapers, adverts, brochures and reference books are all examples of non-fiction texts. Research has shown that exposing children to information text will not only improve their vocabulary, but also develops their curiosity about the world around them, both past and present. Non-fiction can also help them to find new hobbies and interests, aiding the development of the whole child.