

## Reception Reading books

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here are some examples of reading activities that you could do with your child to help them with their reading and understanding of books. Please remember that we teach sounds at school when the children are starting to read (rather than letter names).

### Learning their sounds

- Show the child a sound and check that they are saying it correctly. Here is a video to help you to check how to say the sounds: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yln6PpV1G1I>
- Look at different words and say each sound e.g. c a t
- Can you find something on the page that begins with a c-c-c sound?

### Learning to blend words

- Encouraging them to sound out a word c-a-t and then start blending them back together again slowly at first. Then building up speed to put it back together to make a full word e.g. cat
- You can use this video to help you to see how to help your child to blend: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNyFikwNQTg>
- Choose one word on each page for them to read and build this up as they become more confident
- Find a picture on the page which matches the word they have read (eg. find the cat)

### Reading sentences

- Helping them with common words such as I, he, she, the was, which you cannot sound out

- Looking for words that rhyme
- Encouraging them to read with expression and think about who is talking in the story

At every reading level it's important to talk about the story and ask questions to check your child's understanding. For example:

- What happened?
- Who was in the story?
- Where did they go?
- What happened in the beginning/middle/end?
- How did the characters feel?

It's also important to read each book two or three times - this will help your child feel more confident and build up their fluency.

In addition, it is really important for you to read stories to your child. This helps them to understand the story more and think about the beginning, middle and end. It also allows them to hear a range of new vocabulary and become aware of the rhythm of a story and how it should sound.

A regular routine of reading with your child every day - even if it is only two pages, is really beneficial for your child's development. It will be a really special time for them to spend with you! Choose a time of day when your child is not too tired and find a quiet space where they can concentrate. Some parents find a sticker chart helpful for this routine.

It is important that the reading book is kept in the **named plastic wallet** that we give to the children to stop books getting lost. If your wallet has gone missing please let us know and we can replace it.

**Remember: Reading regularly is the best thing you can do to support your child's education!**

Thanks,

The Incredible Years team