

### **Introducing reading in your home:**

Short extracts about current events are always a good starting point. These can be introduced over dinner where you mention something you have been reading and you can ask for opinions about the topic. Be open to your child's thoughts and try and avoid closed questions.

When driving, out on an audiobook and let your child ask questions. On a long journey, they won't be able to help themselves. The voice reading out loud, doesn't always have to be your own! Reading to our children teaches them to think, make connections and communicate what they have heard.

### **Questions to ask whilst reading with your child:**

Use a range of strategies listed below to trigger ideas about what your child is reading. They don't need to be asked in any specific order and can be asked at any given point. Remember to praise your child at every opportunity so they relate reading to a pleasurable experience.

#### **Predict:**

Make suggestions as to what the text might be about. Have a discussion around the title of the book or the blurb on the back. Predict the themes and characters to try and stimulate progress.

*What do you think the cover suggests about this story?*

*What do you think will happen next?*

*What does the headline suggest that the article will be about?*

*What do you think you will learn and find out?*

#### **Discuss relevant experiences and knowledge:**

*Linking to personal experiences or sharing knowledge about a particular topic can spark interest. You can even link films or television series to the plotline to make it relevant.*

*What do you already know about?*

*Do you remember the time we read / watched / visited....?*

#### **Check understanding regularly:**

Ask your child questions around the plotline and characterisation. Why has the author chosen a certain setting or location? The important thing is to have a discussion with your child and to make it meaningful. Praise your child for their ideas.

*I find your thinking behind that idea interesting. How did you reach that conclusion?*

*I wonder why the writer has chosen to use that word? What does it make you feel or think?*

*Why do you think the writer presented the character this way?*

*What is the purpose of the article or speech?*

#### **Summarising ideas and information:**

Try to find time to summarise the information and information they have read. Make time to address any misunderstandings or misconceptions to consolidate their learning. Don't wait until the end of the text or chapter to do this as the information will not be fresh in their minds.

*What are the three most important piece of information in this text?*

*What is the most interesting idea you have read about?*

*Which five words are key to the text and why?*

*Is the tone / topic the same at the beginning as it is at the end?*