



# Come Read with Me



Helpful Tips for Parents

# Why is reading important?



The ability to read is an important key to success in school and in life. Everyday we need to make sense of information that is all around us.


We read to:

- learn about our world and the things that interest us
- enjoy the pleasure of a good story
- expand our vocabulary and build independence and confidence

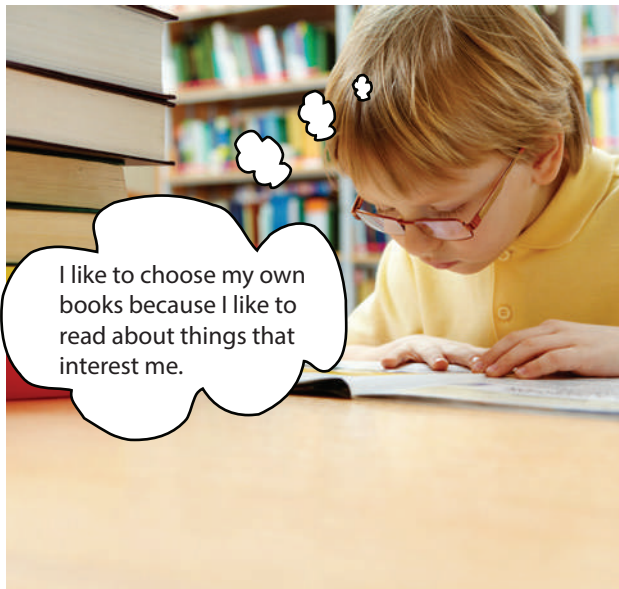
# How do I help my child choose “Just Right” books?

Good questions for your child to ask are:

- Am I interested in the book?
- Do I understand what the book is about?
- Can I read most of the words, or is it too hard for me?



Hearing my favourite book over and over again helps me remember words.



I like to choose my own books because I like to read about things that interest me.

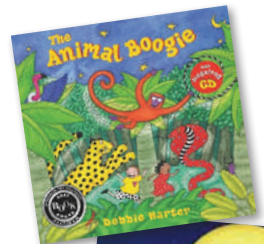
## How do we warm up the book together?

**Before** you start reading, look at the cover, say the title and talk about the main idea of the book. Turn to a few pages and talk about the pictures, saying some of the words your child will read. Ask questions that will help your child to predict and understand the story.



For fiction/storybooks

- What do you think is happening?
- What might happen next?



For non-fiction/fact books

- What do you already **know** about this?
- What do you **wonder** about this?



After you have read the book, ask “What did you **learn**?”

Share what you know, wonder about and what you learned too!

# How do I help build my child's reading fluency and confidence?

These strategies will help your child relax and enjoy the book more. Find books that are **easy** for your child to read. Success leads to confidence!

After you've warmed up the book, you can:

- First read the book to your child
  - This is not cheating, it is setting them up for success.
- Read together at the same time
  - Your child can relax and not worry about making mistakes.
- Echo read - You read a passage, then your child reads the **same passage**
  - Your child will follow your lead of reading smoothly with good expression, stopping at periods and pausing at commas.
- Readers Theatre - You and your child read aloud the speaking parts in the story as if you were reading a play.
  - Reading character parts is fun and builds expression and fluency.

# What do I do if my child makes a mistake?

Children need to use a number of “in the head” or thinking strategies while they read (see page 6). Some children need a little extra time to put it all together. For beginning readers, sometimes it is okay to ignore small mistakes that still make sense (house for home, bike for bicycle). Too many interruptions chip away at a child’s confidence. Instead of immediately coming to the rescue, try to...

## Pause ~ Prompt ~ Praise

If your child makes a mistake and it does NOT make sense...

**PAUSE** to give them time to self-correct or solve the problem without help.

If your child keeps reading without self-correcting, or can’t come up with the right word...

**PROMPT** by asking a question and always encourage them to look carefully at the word.

For example, the text reads, “The boy rode the horse.”

Your child reads, “The boy **fed** the horse.”

Ask: **Does that look right?**

Do the letters match the sounds in the word?

Your child reads, “The boy **rided** the horse.”

Ask: **Does that sound right?**

Is that the way we talk?

Your child reads, “The boy rode the **house**.”

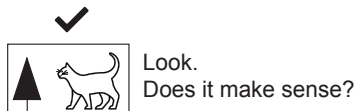
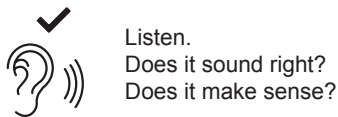
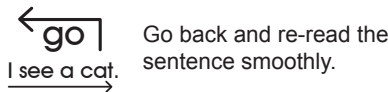
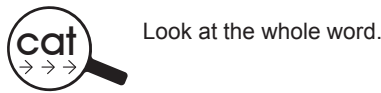
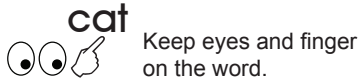
Ask: **Does that make sense?**

**PRAISE** your child for self-correcting, reading smoothly and for sharing time with you.



# What can I do if my child is stuck on a word?

If your child needs help to figure out a tricky word, encourage them to look carefully at the word. Then suggest other strategies like:

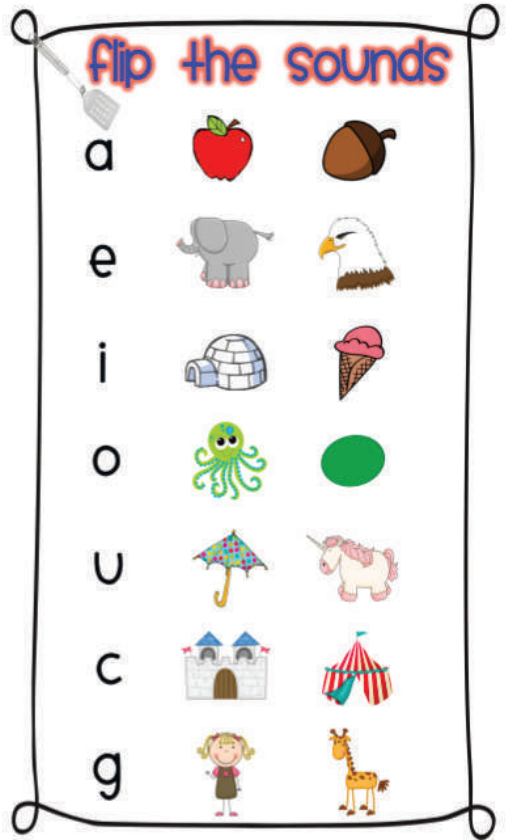


# What about Phonics?

Phonics is the relationship between letters and the sounds they make. Beginning readers need lots of practice decoding, and sounding out words. They learn to see patterns in words like cake, bake, make and rake. Once they know common word patterns, they can see them in new words.

When children get stuck sounding out words, encourage them to think about **meaning**, and what word would **make sense**. When children rely too much on the pictures in a book and not the text, prompt them to look more closely at the letter clues and try sounding out the word.

The goal is for children to use a combination of word solving strategies that will help them read fluently, with good comprehension and enjoyment.





## How do I check that my child understands what's been read?



During and after reading, make sure your child understands the story.

**Talk** about what is happening in the book...

**Ask:**

- What do you think is going to happen next?
- What would you have done in this situation?
- Do you know what this word means?
- What did you learn?

**Share** your thoughts and opinions too!

# Confidence is the key to success!

## Remember...

- The best book is one your child WANTS to read
- It's okay to read favourite books over and over again
- Learning to read takes practice - be patient
- Relax, enjoy this time together and HAVE FUN!



## How can I help my child become a life-long reader?

- Make reading FUN – that’s how children learn naturally
- Read together every day – make it a positive time
- Find books your child is interested in – comics and fun books are okay
- Let your child see you reading – you are the role model
- Play word games - reinforces learning new words and provides fun reading practice



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