

Activities to try at home

- ◆ Make puppets by cutting figures out of card or mismatched socks and use these as props for a story. You could also use your child's own toys.
- ◆ Create a print rich environment e.g. shopping lists on the fridge door, foam alphabet in the bath etc.



- ◆ Read familiar signs e.g. of shops, fast-food outlets, TV programme logos such as CBeebies.
- ◆ Take and use photographs of your child, family members and familiar places. Use these to make a book that your child can create stories for.
- ◆ Regular bedtime stories are both fun and a time to foster a life long love of literature.
- ◆ Encourage your child to draw pictures and make up stories about them.



The Reading Journey

3 - 5



A few handy hints to support your child's reading experiences.
A helpful booklet aimed to support children aged 3 to 5 years old.

The act of reading is a life long skill that is the very foundation to ALL learning and the key to most of life's experiences.

How to encourage your child to read

- ♦ **Read yourself!** Set a good example by showing your child that you read too.
- ♦ **Keep your books in your bag!** A long wait at the doctors or dentists or even the bus stop can seem less boring if you share a book.
- ♦ **Use books as toys!** Keep tough board books in the toy box and play with them together. You can also get waterproof books for bath time too.
- ♦ **Visit your library!** It's free to join. All libraries have children's sections. Many have regular story telling sessions for the under fives every week. At Moorgate we have a family library session every Thursday located in the Reception classroom.
- ♦ **Point out words all around you!** Look at road signs, shop signs, packets and labels on food packets in the supermarket.
- ♦ **Make time to read!** Why not share a story every night? Make it as much a part of bedtime as brushing teeth.
- ♦ **Keep in touch with the school!** You're always welcome to find out what is happening in school.

How to help with reading

- ♦ **Look at the pictures!** Ask lots of questions about the pictures and the story.
- ♦ **Spot words in books!** How many times do familiar words come up?
- ♦ **Turn off the TV!** It's easier for your child to concentrate if there are no distractions.
- ♦ **Follow the words with your finger!** This will help your child to learn them.
- ♦ **Spot letters!** Encourage your child to spot the letters of their name in the writing they see.
- ♦ **Let them pretend to read!** Young children often like to pretend to read by making up the story themselves. This is a great start.
- ♦ **Teach them how to treat books!** Teach your child how to hold books and turn pages gently.
- ♦ **Let them read their favourites!** Don't worry if they want to read the same books over and over again. It's good practise.
- ♦ **Don't read for too long!** A quality 10 minutes is better than a difficult half hour.