

Activities to try at home

- To make a scrap book with your child about their favourite star, group or team. Let them cut out pictures of magazines and papers and write their own captions
- Read the shopping list
- Share the TV guide
- Try some baking following a written recipe
- Buy a book of crosswords and word searches and try and solve them together. Make up your own puzzles and try them out on friends
- Most of all—making reading a fun experience with a purpose



The Reading Journey

7–11



A few handy hints to support your child's reading experiences.
A helpful booklet aimed to support children aged 7 to 11 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 talking about the reading you do either at work or at home.
- **Keep your books safe!** Make your child their own special place to keep their books in their bedrooms.
- **Visit the library!** It's free to join. As well as taking out story books, use visits to the library as a time to find books about your child's hobbies and interests.
- **Don't just read books!** Encourage your child to read newspapers, TV guides, comics and magazines. Ask your child to locate information from the yellow pages, the Internet, cookery books etc.
- **Make time to read!** Set aside a time for reading for the family—after school or before bedtime. Encourage independent reading but don't be afraid to still tell a bedtime story.
- **Let your child read with younger children!**

How to help with reading

- **Be positive!** Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's alright to make mistakes.
- **Give them time!** Let them make a guess before you tell them the word. Let them read to the end of the line before correcting their mistakes. It doesn't matter if you have to tell them the words sometimes.
- **Spot words within words!** Help them to spot words they know within larger more complicated words.
- **Let them read their favourites!** Don't worry if they only read one kind of book! If they are really stuck, ask the librarian or teacher to suggest something else they might like.
- **Make the story come to life!** Encourage your child to read with expression. This will help them read more fluently.
- **Ask lots of questions about the story!** What would you have done if you were...? Does this book remind you of anything that has happened to you? Can you guess what is going to happen next?