

## Some questions and prompts to help your child to read well:

- What do you think this story/book will be about?
- I wonder what will happen next. What do you think?
- Does this remind you of anything/a place that you have been to/a feeling?
- What is happening here?
- How do you think this character feels?
- What do you think s/he should do?
- What would you do?
- Why do you think the character has done/said that?
- Where might we find information about?
- What do you already know about?
- Does this remind you of any other stories that you have read?
- What were the main events in this story?
- What happened at the beginning, middle, in the end?

- What does this word mean? How can we find out?
- Do you like these words? Why? How do they make you feel? Why do you think the author has used them?
- How do you think the author feels about this character/situation/subject?
- Did you like the story/book? Why? Why not?
- Which five words would you choose to describe this character and why?
- If you could ask the character three questions what would they be?
- Do you think this character is good or bad? Why?
- What was the best bit?



# Book Band

## Reading at Home



## Book Band Bookmarks

Some of the reading books that your child brings home are colour-coded. Each colour corresponds to the stage at which they are reading.

Your child's teacher may send a coloured book mark home with the book. The colour of the bookmark corresponds to the colour of the book. They list prompts and questions to engage you and your child in reading.

Use the prompts on the bookmark, and ones you've had before, to help you support your child in becoming a successful, independent reader. Adapt them to suit the book or make up some of your own.



## Reading at home

Reading should be a pleasure. The love of books and reading is one of the main things that helps children to be successful at school. If reading is a pleasure, children will want to read when they need to, not just when they want to.

### Reading to your child

- Read to them every day.
- Just before they go to bed is a good time ... but not in front of the TV!
- Be enthusiastic about the story ... or choose another.
- Allow the child to choose whenever possible. Yes, they will often choose their favourite over and over again ... this is quite natural.
- If you try to change the story, or leave bits out they will tell you very quickly!
- Decide good places to stop and ask; "What do you think will happen next?"
- Decide which pictures to stop and talk about.
- Show your enjoyment ... laugh, smile, look scared, look sad, sound excited, etc.
- Run your finger along the line under the words as you read.



- Invite the child to turn the pages over, you may need to guide their hand first.
- Talk about the pictures "Can you see the wolf hiding?"

## Hearing your child read

Get comfy!

Give reading your full attention. Don't do chores or have the T.V. on.

### If they stop or become stuck:

- Ask them to look at the first letter of the word
- Encourage sounding out each letter to build the word and blend the sounds together. (There is a correct way to sound out the letters—ask your child's teacher to show you how.)
- Ask them to look at the picture for clues.
- Ask them to miss the word out and read to the end of the sentence. Then go back to the beginning of the sentence and make a guess. They could use the first letter of the word to help them
- Ask them to look for any words they might know.
- Ask them to think about the story.
- Ask them to look for patterns in words eg ing, -ed, ight
- If they are still stuck, tell them and move on.

Be positive and praise your child for their effort and achievement, even if they do not read the whole book fluently!

