



PARENTS

“HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD READ?”

1. Always stop and look at the whole word from left to right.
2. Track your finger under the word and say each sound the letter or letter string represents, blending the sounds as you go. In the beginning, short decodable books are best because they are matched to your developing child's knowledge of the letter/sound relationships. /l/ /igh/ /t/ /b/ /oa/ /t/
3. Once your child has blended the sounds together and says the word – prompt them to read it again fluently
4. Lifting the print off a page is the first thing- but checking it makes sense is the complete package. Have a quick chat about the word. Make sure your child understands the meaning of the word within the context of the sentence.
5. Can you identify meaningful parts that can be applied to understanding other words? (er, plural s, -ing, past tense -ed, -ful, -ness)

TOP TIPS for when your child is stuck on an unknown word

Ask your child to read 'all through the word' articulating each phoneme e.g. s-w-i-m, sh-i-p, l-igh-t

Re-read the word for pace and fluency

Re-read the sentence for comprehension

TIP – read aloud quality picture books **to** your child to build world and topic knowledge, vocabulary and language patterns that are not part of everyday speech.

If your child stumbles on a word when they are reading-knowing what to do, and how to prompt them is key to building their confidence and their literacy skills.