

## Talking about the book – asking questions to develop your child’s reading skills.

### Starting a new book:

Look at the picture on the cover read the title of the book.

Example questions to ask:

- What do you think this book is about?
- Who are the characters?
- What are they like?
- What might happen? etc.

### When you are reading:

Example questions to ask your child:

- What do you think will happen next?
- Tell me about .... (a character in the story)?
- What are they like?
- That is interesting, which words in the book give you clues about this?
- What do you think they will do next?
- Were there any parts of the book or new words that were difficult to understand?
- Can you summarise what has happened so far?

To learn more about reading and the teaching of phonics visit these websites:

Hear the sounds here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gxxLnfS5Ts>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGpsVmWLRFA>

Activities for children:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/>

Information and activities:

<http://www.earlylearninghq.org.uk/literacy/>



Your child’s class teacher will always be willing to see you to discuss other ways in which you can help your child at home.

To make an appointment please send in a note to your child’s teacher or telephone the school.

## Newbury Park Primary Reading in Reception



Teaching your child to read is our top priority.

We have developed this guide to help you understand how we teach reading at Newbury Park and how you can help your child at home.



## Reading in school

### The Daily Phonics lesson

We teach phonics systematically from the Reception class onwards. Reception classes have a phonics session each day. The children are taught the combinations of sounds (phonemes) and letters (graphemes) that make up reading and writing in English. Children are taught to sound out the letters for example c-a-t to read the word “cat”.



### Story Time

The teacher reads stories to the children everyday.

As the story progresses, the teacher will ask the children questions about the story and the pictures in order to develop their higher order reading skills.

The sessions are vital to encourage an enthusiasm and excitement for reading for all the children.

## Supporting Reading at home.

### Home Reading Book

All children have a book which is suitable to their reading level. It is very important that they can understand (comprehension) the book as well as say the words (decoding). The books are changed each week.

The teachers would like you to talk to your child about the book, listen to them read. Your child will also bring home a yellow “Home/school Book”. Please use this to let us know by writing in this book if your child has read their Home reading book. You can also write any comment you wish to communicate to the teacher.

### Library books

Classes have a library session each Wednesday. Please come in and help your child choose a book to take home. This is a book for you to read with your child. Often children choose a book that interests them but is too difficult for them to read independently. Please help us by making sure that the book is returned promptly.

### Individual reading

The staff listen to each child read an individual reading book every week. They assess the child’s reading skills and note areas of work that can help the child progress. The assessment helps ensure that the books children take home to read provide the right level of challenge to improve each child’s reading skills.

## Reading with your child at home.

Reading with your child each evening can be the most important way to help your child succeed in school.

Our top tips are:

Make it cosy – on the sofa rather than sitting at a table.

Have no distractions – choose a quiet time with no TV in the background.

If you and your child are enjoying it – it will work.

Divide the time between **you reading to your child**, him or her **reading to you** and both of you **talking about the book**.

Talking about the book is very important – it helps children to develop their understanding of the book while they are reading.

The more **children talk, question and respond to questions about their reading** the better they will be at reading more advanced texts.

