

Selecting Texts

- What makes a good book is your child's reaction to it!
- Look for books that:
 - Rhyme
 - Have predictable stories and repeated phrases
 - Have colourful illustrations
 - Extend personal experiences

Common Concerns:

The book my child brings home is:

- Too easy—this is fine because the practice builds skills that can be applied to more difficult texts and they need to feel successful
- Too hard—great, read it to them and enjoy it
- Had it before—familiar reads are helpful with comprehension, fluency, and phrasing and have a genuine place in learning to read

Supporting Your Child

- Find a comfortable place to read.
- Read to your child every day (even after they can read on their own). Reading aloud helps children expand their vocabulary, appreciate the value of books and other texts, understand new ideas and concepts, and learn about the world around them.
- Encourage your child to “have a go” at reading and praise all attempts.
- Talk about the characters, people, and events and encourage your child to express their opinions about books.



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Reading At Home

A Guide for Parents K-3



“...among all the ways children spent their time, reading books was the best predictor of several measures of reading achievement...”

Anderson, Wilson & Fielding, 1988

Reading To and With Your Child

Before Reading

- Allow your child to select the book and discuss the reasons for the selection.
- Encourage your child to look at the title and cover of a book and talk about what it might be about. This can be done with the pictures too.

During Reading

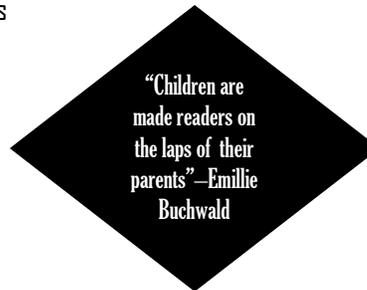
- Ask questions: What is happening now? What do you think will happen next? Why is he or she doing that?
- Answer your child's questions even if it means interrupting the flow of the story.
- **Encourage your child to look at the pictures for clues for the story or unknown words.**

After Reading

- Talk about the book—characters, pictures, plots, and settings.
- Discuss what was learned if it was a non-fiction book.
- Compare the people and events in books with those in real life.

What to Read To and With Your Child at Home

- Anything and everything
- Newspapers
- TV Guides
- Recipe Books
- Emails
- Great literature that you love
- Local library books
- Books from school
- Information from websites



Even 10 minutes of reading per day can make a huge difference!

Research shows that extensive reading was linked to superior performance on measures of general knowledge, vocabulary, spelling and reading comprehension.

An extra 10 minutes a day increases the number of words read by 700,000 per year, lifting students to the quantity needed to place in the 70th percentile.

-Adams 2006

References:

- **Good Choice! Supporting Independent Reading and Response K-6**, Tony Stead 2009 Stenhouse Publishers
- www.scilearn.com/alldocs/rsrch/30388RAExtra10min.pdf