

Reading at home ...

Let your child “do the work!” He/she may struggle, but learning comes from successfully overcoming struggle. So, let your child do the thinking!



- Encourage your child to choose a book.
- Your child should engage in *before* reading strategies by looking at the cover, looking at the pages, noticing the pictures, etc.
 - Prompt with...
 - “What do you notice? What else do you notice?”
 - “Will this book tell you information or share a story? How do you know?”
 - “What do you think this book will be about? Why do you think the author wrote this book? What makes you excited to read?”
- As your child reads, celebrate when he or she applies skills without prompting!
- If your child gets stuck on a word, prompt him or her to determine the word on her own, like...
 - “Look at the word.”
 - “Slide through each sound.”
 - “Try a different sound.”
 - “Break the word into parts.”
 - “Check it! Does it make sense?”
 - [No prompt-- just wait!]
 - “Try reading that again.”
- Stop a few times during the reading to ask questions about meaning, like...
 - “What have you read so far?”
 - “What picture do you have in your head right now?”
 - “What questions are you thinking about? What do you wonder?”
- *After* reading the text, discuss the entire text with questions like...
 - “What did you like about this book?”
 - “What surprised you as you read?”
 - “How was this book similar to other books? How was it different?”
 - “What do you think the author wanted us to learn?”