

# Reading With Children at Brailles Guidelines

## Top Tips:

- Regularly.** Read regularly for a short burst of time.
- Enthusiasm.** Show your enthusiasm and enjoyment of reading - your children look to you as a role model; if they see that it is important to you they will feel that it is important to them.
- Ask.** Take the time to ask questions to each other and discuss what you have read.
- Divide.** Share the reading and questioning. Take turns.

**Choose a reading skill focus each time you read. You may choose more than one.**

**Decoding and Fluency**

**Expression and Intonation**

**Comprehension**

<b>Every time you read together</b>	<b>Step 1 is always the same, no matter the reading focus.</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Introduce the book to your child. Tell them how much of the book they will read during this session e.g. 3 pages, 1 chapter etc.</b></li> </ol>
<b>Decoding and Fluency:</b>  Practice sounding out new words.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phonics book: look inside the front cover and share the speed patterns or green and red words in the book. A.R. books: discuss how to pronounce new words and their meanings as children encounter them.</li> <li>Child to begin reading. Support any words which they are unsure of by helping them to break the word into sounds (Fred Fingers). Blend together sounds and repeat the word.</li> <li>Adult reads the whole sentence, child repeats the whole sentence (echo reading).</li> <li>Finish with a discussion of what you have read together, ask each other a few questions. Congratulate your child's effort.</li> <li>Write in the reading diary. Add any specific notes that you may feel are important e.g. Child A read all of the green words well but found the -aw pattern tricky.</li> </ol>
<b>Expression and Intonation:</b>  Practice varying speed and tone to create a reading flow.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share the reading focus together e.g. to read speech in the emotion of the character; use different voices for each character, notice punctuation.</li> <li>Spot and share new words or words the child struggles to pronounce.</li> <li>Adult model reads a sentence / paragraph / page before the child echo reads.</li> <li>Finish with a discussion of what you have read together, ask each other a few questions. Congratulate your child's effort.</li> <li>Write in the reading diary. Add any specific notes that you may feel are important e.g. Child A learned the word 'furious' and read the character with an angry voice.</li> </ol>
<b>Comprehension:</b>  Practice the understanding of the text: <i>vocabulary, explanation, retrieval, inference, prediction, summarise / sequence</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share the reading focus together e.g. we'll read to page 6 and then we're going to predict what will happen next.</li> <li>Child begins reading and then the adult reads for a short time before swapping back. The adult reading offers a model of fluency and allows the child to focus on comprehension, easing brain overload.</li> <li>Stop at different points to check understanding with specific questions.</li> <li>Finish with a discussion of what you have read together, ask each other a few questions. Congratulate your child's effort.</li> <li>Write in the reading diary. Add any specific notes that you may feel are important e.g. Child A was able to tell me why they liked the character of the mouse.</li> </ol>

## Examples of Reading Question Stems / Tasks

These questions will support when you choose a reading focus. You may choose questions from different areas.

Comprehension skill	Question stem / task
<b>Vocabulary</b>	What does ' <i>this word</i> ' mean? Can you use ' <i>this word</i> ' in a sentence of your own? Which word in this sentence do you think is the most important? Why do you think that? Why do you think ' <i>this word</i> ' is repeated? Find a word that tells me what the character is like. What do you think ' <i>this phrase / expression</i> ' means? E.g. 'The weather was filthy.'
<b>Retrieval of Facts</b>	Why / when / who / where / what / how? Questions Give one piece of evidence to show... Name a problem that this character came across on this page / in the book. How did they solve the problem? Is this statement true or false? E.g. <i>Charlie was a greedy, selfish boy.</i> Name 2 things the character found hard / easy / confusing etc. Where is the story set? Tell me 2 things you've learned about this character.
<b>Prediction</b>	What does the front cover make you think the story / book will be about? What do you think will happen next? Why do you think the character said / did that? Why do you think the author chose that word? What lesson is the story trying to teach?
<b>Explanation</b>	What genre of book is this? Has the story reminded you of anything that has happened to you or someone in your family? How is this character similar / different to you? Is this character like a character in another book you have read? How? What is the main problem the characters face in the story? Who do you think is the most important character in the story? Why? Who is your most / least favourite character? Why?
<b>Inference</b>	Find a word which shows how a character feels? Can you find where humour is used? How does this paragraph / phrase make you feel? E.g. scared Which words make you feel that way?
<b>Summarise / Sequence</b>	Which of these events happen first in the story? What happens next after... What happens at the end of the story? How does the main character change over the story? When does Character A meet Character B?