**Reading With Your Child**

* Begin by finding somewhere comfortable and telling your child how much you are looking forward to sharing a book with them.
* **Before reading:** Talk about the book, look at the cover.

Ask questions such as:

"What do you think this book will be about?"

"Why do you think that?"

"Do you like the look of this book?"

"Why do you want to read it?"

* **During reading:** Provide lots of encouragement and enthusiasm.

If there is a word your child doesn't recognise try asking them to find clues from any of the following:

* the illustrations
* what has happened so far in the story
* the sounds in the word, particularly the initial sound
* try leaving out the word and reading the rest of the sentence, then coming back to it.

If they are unsure, just tell them the word, but praise all attempts by your child.

If your child is getting tired or bored, share the reading. Perhaps you could take it in turns to read a page each.

Encourage them to talk about what they have read. Praise success as much as possible.

Ask questions such as:

"What have you found out so far?"

"What do you think will happen next?"

"Why do you think that?"

Ask about the characters or facts contained in the book such as:

"What do you think about what Kipper did?"

"How do you think Floppy felt when ....”

* **After reading:** Be as positive as possible about the reading experience. Thank your child and tell them how much you enjoyed sharing the book, commenting on their particular reading strengths and your favourite part of the book.

Ask more questions about the book such as:

"Did you like it?"

"What was your favourite part?" "Why?"

"Were you surprised by anything?"

"Can you remember why the children went into the house?"

"Can you think of a different ending to the story?"

**\*It is important you share the book in your own language as well as in English, to develop your child’s vocabulary and understanding of the content.**