

**Welcome everybody!**

**Please take a seat**

Parents information meeting about  
reading



# Fun ways to read with your child

Experts in literacy are unanimous in their belief that parents should read with their children.

The power of the parent-child bond has a positive effect on a child's attitude towards reading and their ability to read.

Try the following suggestions that you will hear about today to help make reading both a pleasure and a learning experience!

# 5 – 8 year olds

Set aside a specific time for reading every day and make reading a priority. Try not to do the reading when you are both tired!

Walk through the book first and discuss the pictures and the important words. Always remember to keep reading aloud to your child even when they can read independently.

Encourage your child to read to you. Follow the words with your finger and sound out the words (c-a-t: cat) Ask your child to sound out unknown words. See if they can pronounce each sound and then blend them together

Be positive. Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it is alright to make mistakes.

It's not just about books. Point out all the words around you: labels on food, street signs and shopping lists.

# Older children

Even when your child is older, it is still a good idea to set aside reading time. You should still try to hear your child read every day for 10 to 15 minutes or encourage them to have their special reading time alone (bedtime)

Try to encourage them to choose books at the right level. Use the "five finger rule".

Talk to them about the story or information book and ask them questions about what they have read. Remember the 5 ws (who?, what?, why?, when? where? and how?)

Be a good role model and let them see you reading for pleasure

Join the library and encourage them to read sequels or books by the same author. Also encourage them to read comics, magazines, newspapers and information on the internet.

Check they are changing their home /school book .

# How to help when they are struggling?

Encourage them to use the 5 strategies for when they are stuck on new or difficult words:

- 1) Ask your child to pronounce each sound and then see if they can blend the sounds together?
- 2) Use the story or sentence to help them discover what word might make sense in the plot.
- 3) Help them to memorize irregular words like: where, hour, sign as words like this are hard to sound out.
- 4) Remind them of words with similar word patterns or root words to help. For example if they know the word 'day' then they should be able to define new words like 'yesterday, daily'
- 5) Look at the illustrations, pictures, titles to figure out the meaning

# If you are worried?

**Don't push them to read for hours as this will just effect their confidence and could make them hate reading!**

**Give them encouragement and support!**

**Go to your local library! There are plenty of different books there.**

**Find something that they are interested in and encourage them to read books about that topic.**

Remember reading is meant to be fun!

Polar Bear Polar Bear

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qU97IXT8MIs>