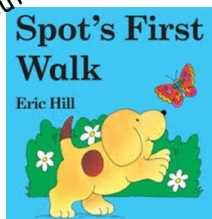


Reading is a vital tool for learning and for life. Reading not only helps us to widen our knowledge and experience but also allows us to increase our confidence in many aspects of our lives.

Helping children to make progress in reading is most successful when it is done in partnership between home and school. Any support you can give will improve your child's progress. We appreciate that parents and other adults are more than willing to offer this support, but may sometimes be unsure how to go about it. Please remember your teachers are also available to give advice.

Happy reading!

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



## How can I help my child with reading at home? (KS1)

*Information for parents*



**West Pennard**  
CE Primary School



Helping your child to practise reading helps them make more progress in school. Children love their parents / carers to take an interest in what they are doing and your help can make a BIG difference!

## How can you help?

### **Read to your child**

Reading to your child won't make them lazy. It will give them a chance to enjoy books with you and remind them reading can be fun. This is a great time for your child to hear what fluent reading, with expression, sounds like.

### **Choose a time to read together that suit you both**

Having a regular time for sharing books can avoid the arguments about stopping TV!

### **Decide how long you are going to spend reading**

5–10 minutes might be quite enough for both of you!

### **Talk to your child about what you are reading**

You could say:

- Did you know that before? I didn't.
- Guess what will happen next.
- Would you do that?
- What can you see in the picture?



### **You do not only have to read school books with your child.**

You could read: something from a newspaper, a joke book, signs whilst driving, labels on food, magazines etc.

## How to hear your child read

When children are in their early stages of learning to read, they will often make mistakes. This is completely normal, don't worry! Stay patient! Children learn a lot from their mistakes.

It is important to make the reading session together an enjoyable experience. Here are a few tips to follow when your child brings a book home:

- Look through the book and talk about the pictures.
- Read some sentences to your child, then let your child read on their own.
- If your child can't read a word, give them a few seconds to try and work it out—remind them to try and use their sounds (phonics).
- Remind them of other strategies to work out unfamiliar words—look at the pictures for clues, continue and read to the end of the sentence, what word would fit? You may need to tell them the word.
- When the reading time is up, talk about the book/story.
- Finally, remember to use lots of praise for having a go and doing well!