



Early Years Reading Strategies

Enjoying and Sharing Books

Experience shows that children benefit hugely by exposure to books from an early age. Right from the start, lots of opportunities should be provided for children to engage with books that fire their imagination and interest. They should be encouraged to choose and peruse books freely as well as sharing them when read by an adult. Enjoying and sharing books leads to children seeing them as a source of pleasure and interest and motivates them to value reading.



Phase One of Letters and Sounds

Sharing a book with your child provides many opportunities set out in Phase One phonics. When you are reading a book to your child you are developing two key skills needed for their later reading and spelling development:

- The ability to listen attentively.
- Enlarging their vocabulary.

You can also draw your child's attention to these aspects in the story...

Alliteration
Rhyme

Getting to Know Books

Give your child the opportunity to hold books and explore them. Model the following skills to your child:

- How to hold the book the right way up and turn the pages one at a time.
- How to distinguish between the illustrations and the text.
- How to use the words to read from left to right.



Making Predictions

Before starting the story why not try reading the title of the book, reading the blurb on the back cover and look at the illustrations on the front cover.

You can ask your child 'What do you think this book is about?' 'What characters might be in this story?'

You can then continue this as you read the story. Pause at different places and make suggests together about what might happen next.



Retelling the story

It is good to read your child's favourite books lots of times over and over again! As they become more familiar with a story they will start to join in and remember the story line.

You can then ask your child questions about the characters and story setting.

Your child will become familiar with story structures - a beginning, middle and end. This will help your child to retell and act out their favourite stories.



Bilingual Stories

If your home language is not English, use this opportunity to develop your child's vocabulary in both languages.

You can read the story in English as well as translating or telling your own story using the pictures in your home language.





Quick Reference

Enjoying and Sharing Books



Phase One of Letters and Sounds

Alliteration 

Rhyme 

Add sound effects 

Change your voice

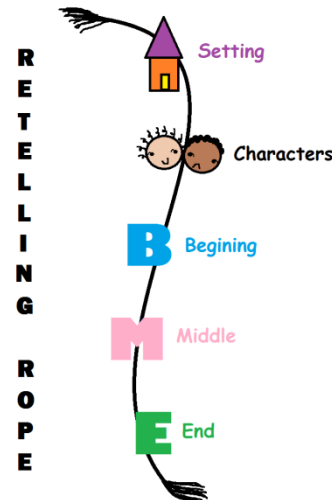
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Storytime

