



## HOW TO DO SHARED READING?

### **STEP ONE: Choose the book**

- Choose a book that is slightly more difficult than the books your child is currently reading.
- Choose different types of books each time you do Shared Reading.
- Ask your child what they are interested in and try to find a book on that subject.
- Find a quiet place and give your child all your attention.

### **STEP TWO: Discuss the type of book**

- A lot of work goes into making a book.
- Look at the front cover and explain to your child:
  - ...the *author* is the person who wrote the book
  - ...the *illustrator* is the person who drew/painted the pictures
  - ...the *title* is the name of the book
  - ...a *fiction* book is a story and *non-fiction* is a book about facts
  - ...a *hard-cover* book is made of hard cardboard and *paperbacks* have soft cardboard covers.

### **STEP THREE: Read the book**

- Point to the words and sentences with your finger while you are reading.
- Explain the following:
  - ...a sentence begins with a capital letter
  - ...a sentence ends with a full stop
  - ...a question sentence ends with a question mark (?)
  - ...a sentence can end with an exclamation mark to show someone is surprised or happy(!)
  - ...a paragraph are a few sentences that are kept together because they have the same topic or idea

...

- Explain how to look for clues of what words/letters say by looking at the pictures.
- Ask your child try to guess what happens next.
- Stop and talk about the story. Ask questions like:  
 ...'What was the story about?'  
 ...'What happened after.....?'  
 ...'If you were the author, how would you have ended the story?'  
 ...'How would you have solved the problem?'
- Allow your child to read part of the story, but help with difficult words or where necessary.

**STEP FOUR: Check for understanding/use the story to teach new words**

- If your child starts to fiddle it may mean that he doesn't like or understand the story. Check by asking a few simple questions.  
 Example: 'What happened when the boy ran away from his mother at the shopping mall?'  
 'Which animal only hunts for mice at night?'
- Ask your child for an opinion about the story.  
 Example: 'Who is your favourite/worst character in the story and why?'  
 'What could you do to make the story more interesting/scary/happy?'
- Discuss new or difficult words by giving examples that your child can relate to from home or school.

*Finally and very importantly.. tell your child how much you have enjoyed reading together*