



The Mosley Academy
Reading with 5 - 7 year olds



How to encourage your child to read

- **Read yourself!** Set a good example by sharing your reading. Let your children see that you value books and keep them at home.
- **Keep books safe.** Make your child their own special place to keep their books. Show them how to turn pages carefully.
- **Point out words all around you.** Help your child to read the words around them: on food packets in the supermarket, on buses, in newspapers, in recipes.
- **Visit your library** - it's free to join! All libraries have children's sections. Many also have regular storytelling sessions.
- **Make time to read.** Read a bedtime story with your child every night. Encourage them to share reading with grandparents, brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles.
- **Keep in touch with school.** Make sure your child swaps their home reading books regularly at school and try to make a regular time slot of about 10 minutes to hear them read each evening.
- **If English is not your family's first language:** You can buy dual language books. You can talk about books and stories in any language.

How to help with reading

- **Be positive.** Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes.
- **Turn off the TV!** It's easier for your child to concentrate if there are no distractions.
- **Give them time.** Let them make a guess before you tell them the word. Help them to get the first sound or try breaking the word up into smaller sections.
- **Point with a finger.** Encourage them to follow the words with their finger.
- **Don't make them try too hard!** It doesn't matter if you have to tell them the word sometimes.
- **Let them read their favourites.** It's good practice to read the same books over and over again.
- **Ask lots of questions.** Check they understand the story by asking them questions about what happens. Use the pictures to explain what's happening.
- **Don't read for too long.** A good ten minutes is better than a difficult half hour.