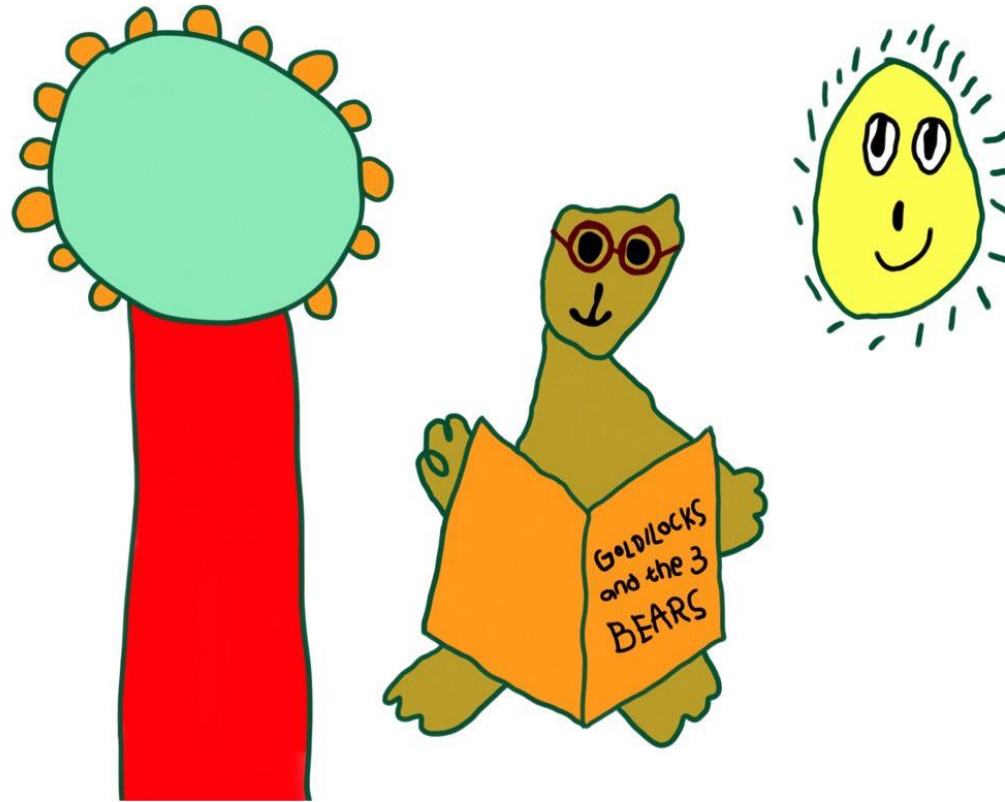


# Warwick Nursery School



Parents Leaflet 1: Reading with your child

# Why is reading with your child important?

1. It develops their speech, language and listening skills.
2. It develops and encourages their imagination.
3. Stories can help teach children about the world around them.
4. Stories introduce children to new vocabulary and show them that words can have different meanings.
5. Reading stories can help children to understand their emotions.
6. Children learn that words carry meaning, which encourages them to want to learn to read themselves.

# Follow your child's lead...

**“There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all.”**

**Jacqueline Kennedy**

**“I will defend the importance of bedtime stories to my last gasp.”**

**J.K. Rowling**



**“If a child loves books, then he will love to READ. If he loves to READ, then he will love to LEARN.”**

**“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.”**

**Emilie Buchwald**

**Your child will develop at their own rate and in their own way.**

# How can you help your child develop a love of reading?

1. Involve them in reading by talking about the pictures in the book and pointing to the words as you read them.
2. Let your child turn over the pages even if you are doing the reading.
3. Read to your child in your first language.
4. Find a quiet and comfortable place to share a book away from noise, TV and mobile phones.
5. Let your child tell the story through the pictures and talk to you about what they can see happening. Encourage them to notice detail in the pictures.

6. Use funny voices, toys and actions to make the characters come alive and engage your child's interest.
7. Encourage your child to ask lots of questions to support their understanding, and respond to their questions.
8. Point out rhyming words in the text (e.g. "Ooh, cat and mat - they sound the same at the end"). Make up nonsense words with your children that also rhyme.
9. Point out letters from your child's name that they might recognise. Use letter sounds (i.e 'd' as in dog, 'c' as in cat) when looking at letters rather than the letter names.
10. Follow the words in a book with your finger to demonstrate that writing in English goes from left to right and top to bottom of a page.

# Ideas to try at home:

**Jigsaw puzzles** help children to notice small details, which will support them as they begin to learn to read to notice small differences between letters (e.g. l and t).

Let your child see you reading both for **pleasure** (e.g. a book or magazine) and for a **purpose** (e.g. instructions) to encourage them to want to read too.

Make a **sock puppet** and tell stories using different voices.  
**Make up your own stories** with your child to support their developing imagination.

Have fun **acting out familiar stories** together. Take on a role in a story and use familiar book language (e.g. "Someone's been eating my porridge!")

Sharing **rhyming stories and nursery rhymes** will help children see patterns in language. Make up **silly rhymes** (e.g. the fat cat sat on the mat).

Make a story part of your child's nightly **bedtime routine** to encourage a love of stories and reading.



# Ideas to try out and about:

**Look out for words and letters** on buses, signs, posters etc. Support children to notice letters that they are familiar with, e.g. in their name.

**Make a shopping list** and use it as you go around the supermarket. Point out the words of the next item to find, to model reading for a purpose.

**Play I-spy** using the initial letter sounds of words, rather than the letter names. Suggest other words that could start with the same sound, including silly, made up words.

**Look at the detailed features of objects** when you're out and about to help your child notice small differences, which will help them when they start to read.

**Play logo spotting games:** point out and encourage your child to notice familiar logos, e.g. names of shops, food brands, so that they can understand that words carry meaning.

**Stop and listen to the sounds around you.** Being able to differentiate between sounds in the environment will help children to hear the different sounds within words.



# Useful information:

Visit your local library where you can borrow all sorts of books for free. Choose a selection of story and information books.

Visit charity shops and car boot sales for good value, second hand books.

Borrow a book from our *Going Home Library* in the conservatory.

Nursery School planning boards (inside the cloakroom) give ideas for how to support your child's learning at home. Subscribe too to our app and follow us on Facebook for further ideas.

For safety reasons, always supervise your child during their play. Remember, small objects can be choking hazards. Ensure that they thoroughly wash their hands after playing outside or with 'messy' resources inside.

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