



Supporting enjoyment of reading at home

- Set special 'adult/child' time aside at the same time each day for snuggling up and reading to your child or listening to an audiobook. The shared experience and joy of sharing stories can be a powerful motivator and can make a huge difference to how children feel about reading and the practice of reading. It is OK to make reading errors. It's important for children to see adults making mistakes, using strategies to overcome difficulties and managing their emotions around mistakes.
- Read with drama and excitement, or choose audio books with engaging voices! Use different voices for different characters in the story. This makes the experience more dynamic and fun and children learn so much about words, meaning and emotion from the sing song nature of language.
- Use your child's name instead of a character's name to gain his focus and interest.
- Make/use puppets and use them to act out a story when you are reading or after you have read a book.
- Re-read your child's favourite stories as many times as they want to hear them, and choose books and authors that they enjoy (rather than what is in their reading band). Repetition is really important in helping children distinguish sounds and attach meaning to words.
- Point to words as you read them. This will help your child make a connection between the words he hears you say and the words he sees on the page.
- Read all kinds of material – stories, poems, information books, food labels, signs, magazine and newspaper articles, and comics.
- Visit your local library. Most libraries have a great children's section now and they often have activities during the holidays too. For younger children they often have a 'bounce and Rhyme' session. Devon Libraries have a facebook page and website where you can check out what's on. Make sure look at interactive CD-ROMs, audiobooks and the Internet, as well as books. A trip to the library is free and can be a great way to entertain children during the holidays.
- Borrow (library)/ Subscribe to a magazine. Most children's magazines have short stories as well as information and directions for tasks.



FREE AUDIOBOOKS

Listening to audio books can help children keep an interest in stories even when they are reluctant to read, it can also give us parents a rest and allow us to immerse ourselves in the story with our child. They can help a child develop key skills such as listening and concentration, and are a good introduction to new words and ways of using language. Some audio book apps will highlight the text on screen as it is being read, which can help your child identify words.



You can borrow audio books for free from your local library. Devon Libraries has an App called LIBBY <https://libbyapp.com/welcome> where you can download audiobooks from your local library for free.

There are also several websites that offer free audio books.

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Most Importantly.... **HAVE FUN!** Reading should be a delight and never a chore 😊