READING WITH YOUR CHILD

Reading with Your Child at Home: A Helpful Guide

Why is Reading Important?

Reading with your child at home is one of the most important activities you can do to support their development. It helps build their vocabulary, improve their language skills, and strengthen their imagination and comprehension. Plus, it's a great way to bond and share special moments together.

How Reading Supports Your Child's Development:

Improves Language Skills – Exposure to books helps expand your child's vocabulary and improve their sentence structure.

Enhances Listening and Attention – Regular reading sessions help children develop good listening habits and the ability to focus.

Boosts Imagination and Creativity – Reading stories stimulates the imagination, helping children to think creatively and explore new worlds.

Encourages a Love of Books – Reading regularly builds a positive attitude towards books and learning, fostering a lifelong love of reading.

Tips for Reading with Your Child:

Make It Fun – Keep reading sessions enjoyable. Use different voices for characters, sound effects, or props to bring the story to life.

Ask Questions – After reading, ask your child questions like, "What do you think will happen next?" or "How do you think the character feels?" This helps them think critically and engage with the story.

READING WITH YOUR CHILD

Read Aloud – Even if your child is able to read on their own, reading aloud helps improve their fluency and keeps them connected to the story.

Encourage Discussion – Talk about the story. Ask your child what their favourite part was and why, or what they learned from the book.

Make Time for Reading Every Day – Try to set aside time each day to read, even if it's just for a few minutes. This helps to create a routine and reinforces the importance of reading.

Choosing the Right Books:

Age-Appropriate Books – Choose books that are suitable for your child's age and development stage. Look for books with colourful pictures and simple, engaging language for younger children. For older children, books with longer stories and more complex ideas are appropriate.

Variety of Genres – Offer a variety of books, such as picture books, stories, factual books, and poems. This exposes your child to different types of language and storytelling.

Interactive Books – Books with flaps, textures, or questions can make reading even more engaging, especially for younger children.

What to Expect:

Early Interest in Stories – Young children may not be able to sit still for long periods, but they will begin to develop a keen interest in stories, characters, and pictures.

READING WITH YOUR CHILD

Developing Independent Reading Skills – As your child grows, they may start to recognize words and even read simple sentences on their own. Encourage them to read to you or their toys, boosting their confidence.

Building Confidence – Regular reading helps your child become more confident in their ability to understand stories and express themselves.

How We Support Reading at Nursery:

Story Time – We regularly read to the children at nursery, providing opportunities for them to enjoy different types of stories and expand their vocabulary.

Encouragement to Read at Home – We encourage parents to read with their children every day, supporting the development of early literacy skills.

Library Visits – We organise visits to the nursery library where children can explore a variety of books and choose ones that interest them.

Parental Engagement – We offer suggestions for age-appropriate books and encourage you to share your child's favourite books with us.

Conclusion:

Reading with your child at home is an incredibly rewarding activity that can have a significant impact on their learning journey. By making reading a regular part of your daily routine, you are helping to foster a love of books and support your child's language and cognitive development.