

# Reading with your child

## 3-4 years



As you read to your child:

- Let them turn the pages
- Talk to them about the book.
- Enjoy the pictures and talk about them. The more you talk together, the more words your child will learn.
- Ask questions when your reading together such as:  
What does your child think is happening?  
What will happen next?  
What can you see on this page?  
How do you think the characters feel?  
How do you think the story is going to end?
- Follow the story (sentences) with you finger- sweeping your finger under the words helps towards directionality (reading from left to right and top to bottom)
- Point out letters from your child's name

Top tips to help you enjoy books together:

- \* Make animal noises or sound effects- these help to bring the story to life and will make you both laugh!
- \* Let your child be the storyteller. They can 'read' the pictures to you and talk about what's happening on the page.
- \* If you feel comfortable, try pulling funny faces or putting on character voices- these always make children giggle!
- \* Visit your local library where you can borrow books for free. See if they run a Rhymetime or story sessions where you can meet other families and enjoy rhymes together.

If you require further information or advice please do not hesitate to contact your key worker.

## READING WITH YOUR CHILD

Your child has been given a school book bag, and every Friday will be given a new school reading book, so please remember to bring your child's book bag every Friday.

At Eastfield Nursery School we believe that reading with your child is one of the best ways to help your child get ready for school and encouraging reading for life.

### Spending just 10 minutes reading together every day:

- Helps your child develop social and emotional skills.
- Strengthens their bond with you.
- Helps them grow into confident, happy learners.



Young children love looking at books. Books can open up whole new worlds for them so make reading time FUN:

- Relax and be happy. Cuddle up together or get brothers and sisters to join in and enjoy stories and rhymes together.
- Find a quiet place, away from noise, television and mobile phones.
- Keep the reading session short - about 10 minutes
- Praise your child for looking at the pictures and for listening.
- Encourage your child to take care of books and handle them carefully.
- Keep a record of the books you have read together.

Reading stories to children is one of the best ways of helping children to enjoy reading and making them want to read for themselves.

Young children need to know how books work; by watching, listening and talking to you they will learn:

- Where to begin and end reading
- Which way the book opens
- How to turn over pages
- To read from left to right in English
- The difference between words & pictures
- To know that it is the writing on the page that tells the story