

Paired reading

Setting the scene

With paired reading the new things to get used to are:

- You and your child need to read **at the same time**.
- When your child gets a word wrong, just tell him/her what the word says. Then your child says it after you. You **don't** make your child struggle to '*break it up*' or '*sound it out*'.
- When your child gets words right, smile and show you are pleased and say 'good'. Don't worry about the words s/he got wrong.

Paired reading has two steps

Reading together

You and your child **both** read out loud **together**. Try not to go too fast.

Make your speed as fast or as slow as your child's.

If your child struggles too long or struggles and gets it wrong

- **Just say the right word yourself** and
- **Make sure your child then says it correctly as well.**

Make sure your child looks at the words. It can help if one of you points to the word you are both reading with a finger. It's best if your child does the pointing.

Reading alone

When you are reading together and your child feels confident enough, s/he might want to read alone for a while. You should agree on a way for your child to ask you to be quiet.

This could be a knock, a sign or a squeeze. (You don't want your child to have to say 'Be quiet' or s/he will lose track of the reading.) When your child makes the signal, you go quiet right away.

When your child struggles for more than 5 seconds, or struggles and gets it wrong, you immediately read the right word out loud for your child. Make sure your child then say it right as well.

Then you both go on reading out loud *together*, until your child feels confident to read alone and asks you again to stop reading.

Prompt Sheets for Parents

Hearing your child read

Setting the scene

Choose a quiet time and a quiet place

- Sit side by side so you are both looking at the book
- If it is a new book, talk about it before you start reading
- Short, frequent sessions are best, e.g. 10 minutes two or three times a week - more often if you can manage it!
- As your child is reading remember to

- **PAUSE, PROMPT and PRAISE**

Pause

- If your child makes a mistake **WAIT** at least until the end of the sentence before you offer help. This gives him/her a chance to correct the mistake without help.

Prompt

If the mistake does not make sense, help by giving some clues about the meaning of the story

- If the mistake does make sense, help by giving clues about the look of the word
- If your child leaves a word out completely do the same things:
 - if leaving the word out does not make sense, give clues about the **meaning** of the story.
 - if leaving the word out does make sense, give clues about the **look** of the word

Praise

- When a sentence is read correctly
- When your child has corrected his/her own mistake
- When he/she has managed to work out what a word says after you have given some clues

BUT IF HE/SHE CAN'T READ THE WORD AFTER TWO PROMPTS TELL HIM/HER THE WORD
