

*Teach a child to read and keep that child reading and we will change everything.
And I mean everything.
Jeanette Winterson*

The Importance of Reading at Home

Reading at home plays a vital role in your child's development, especially as they begin their Reception year.
Here are some key reasons why daily reading matters:

Supports Language Development

Children learn new words, sentence structures, and ways to express themselves through stories. Regular reading helps children associate books with fun and comfort, building lifelong reading habits.
Reading together creates special moments and builds emotional connections.

- Encourage your child to follow the text with their finger. At first your child will be taught to point at each word, moving on to sliding their finger smoothly under the text.
- When your child is trying to sound out an unfamiliar word, give them time to do so. Remind your child to look closely at the first sound of the word to help them.
- Ask your child to use the pictures to help them as they read too.

Reading at home



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Reinforces Phonics and Early Literacy Skills

Books help children hear and see sounds, letters, and words in context, supporting what they learn in school.

Improves Concentration and Listening Skills

Sitting and listening to a story helps children develop focus and attention span.

Tips for Reading at Home

- Make reading part of your daily routine (e.g., bedtime story).
- Let your child choose books they enjoy.
- Talk about the story and pictures together.
- Use different voices and expressions to make it fun.
- Praise your child's efforts and participation.

Lead the Way