



St. Enda's National School

LISDOONVARNA, CO. CLARE.

ROLL No.: 19700J

TEL: 065-7074231 FAX: 065-7074231

WEBSITE: www.lisdoonvarnans.ie

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PRINCIPAL: Mr. M.J. Malone

How to Encourage Your Child to Read (Junior Infants – 2nd Class)

Keep Books at Home and Keep Books Safe:

Let your child know that books are a part of your life. Show a good example by reading for fun and talking about the reading you do at work and at home: books, newspapers, magazines, letters etc.

Make your child their own special place to keep their books in their bedroom.

Point Out Words Around You:

Help your child to read the words around them: on food packets in the supermarket, on buses, in newspapers, in recipes etc.

Visit the Local Library:

It's free to join! All libraries have a children's section with plenty of suitable and age appropriate reading material. Ask the librarian for some suggestions.

Make a Time to Read:

Why not have bedtime stories every night? Take turns reading aloud.

Let Everyone Help:

Encourage your child to read with other people: grandparents, brothers and sisters, aunties and uncles.

How to Help with Reading

Turn Off the TV:

With no distractions, you can concentrate properly on the reading and enjoy the reading together.

Make it Regular:

Ten minutes every night is much better than an odd hour once in a while.

Point with a Finger:

Encourage your child to follow the words with their finger until they become more confident readers.

Use the Pictures:

Help them to look at the pictures for clues.



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Be Positive - Give Them Time - Help Them Get the First Sound - Don't Make Them Try Too Hard:

Praise your child for trying hard with their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes. Let them make a guess before you tell them the word. Help them to get the first letter and try to sound the words out. Get them to look for smaller words within the word. Be aware that some words can't be sounded out. When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word, have him/her re-read that sentence. Often children are so busy figuring out a word they lose the meaning of what they've just read.

Let Them Read Their Favourites:

Don't worry if they want to read the same books over and over. It's good practice. Re-reading helps children to read more quickly and accurately.

Ask Lots of Questions About the Story:

Check they understand the story they have read by asking them lots of questions about what has happened. Ask them to retell what they have read in their own words.

Create a writing toolbox

Fill a box with drawing and writing materials. Find opportunities for your child to write, such as the shopping list, thank you notes or birthday cards.

What to Pick?

Encourage your child to read all kinds of books and reading material: stories, information books, comics, computer games, manuals, joke books, pop-up books, puzzle books, CD-ROMs, the Internet. Move from short chapter books with pictures to longer chapter books as they become better readers. Pupils should use the 5 Finger Rule to help them choose a suitable book.

The 5 Finger rule

Open the book to the middle. Choose a full page of words. Read the page out loud. Hold up a finger each time you come to a word you don't know or understand.

1 Hold up one finger (your thumb):

1 Thumbs Up! You knew all but one word! This book will be pretty easy for you.

2 Hold up two fingers (thumb and first finger to make an "L"):

2 "L" stands for Learning. You might need some help, but it will be a good learning book for you.

3 Hold up three fingers (3 middle fingers to make a "W"):



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"W" is for Warning. You can read this book, but it is a warning that it might be frustrating and you may not enjoy it.

4 Hold up four, five or more fingers. This is a stop signal. This would be a good book to stop reading by yourself and start reading with a buddy.

5 Find someone who can read this book with you and then look for another book you will enjoy by yourself.

Useful websites

www.familylearning.org

www.ictgames.com

www.starfall.com

www.roythezebra.com

www.topmarks.co.uk

www.crickweb.co.uk

www.literactive.com