

Reading and vocabulary

Children who read well and read for pleasure develop the biggest vocabularies. Set up your child for life by reading to him or her every day. Focus on vocabulary by following the prompts set out on the bookmarks we will send home from school.

There are two different bookmarks that you can use with your child. Both can be used with any book you are reading with your child.

The first bookmark (left) involves looking for different types of words.

The second bookmark (right) focuses on looking out for new words.

Word Aware Different Words

When you have finished reading, do one of these challenges.

Find a word that your child likes. Why do they like it?



Find an action word and act it out together.



Find a describing word. Think of something else you could describe using this word, eg:



Find a word your child hasn't seen or heard before. Talk about what it means.



Find words for different ways of talking. Have fun by saying the same sentence in different ways.



Word Aware New Words

These ideas can be used when you are reading and talking about books with your child.



Before you read the book, say, 'Let's look out for new words that you've never heard before.'



Once in a while, stop and ask, 'Did you hear any new words?'



If your child says 'Yes', talk about that word's meaning.

If your child says 'No', identify a word you think might be tricky. Talk about what the word means.

