

Majura Primary School



A Guide to Successful Home Reading

**Strategies for student
engagement and achievement**



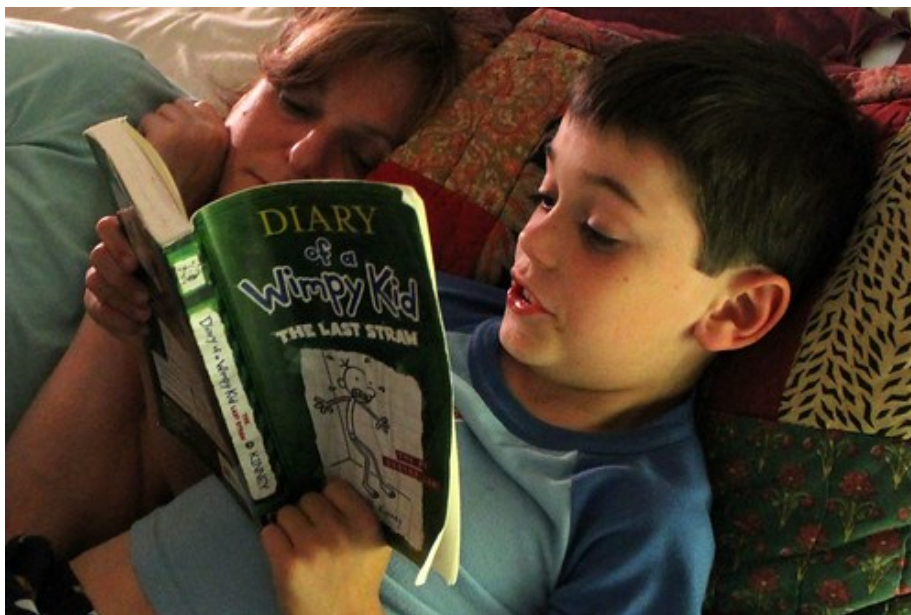
Important Points

Make reading time **relaxed** and STRESS FREE for everyone.

If possible find a quiet place to share a reading time. This will help your child to focus on the reading and will make it a special part of their reading routine.

While it is important for children to practice their reading, the purpose of reading at home is to achieve success and **enjoy** reading. Sometimes a reading session might involve being read to by an adult, or perhaps a night of shared reading.

Encourage your child to read a variety of fiction and non fiction books. The most effective way to assist your child to become a happy and confident reader is by sharing a love of reading with them. Share and discuss the book, magazine or news-article in print or online you are reading as well.



During the reading

1. Look through the book together. Discuss the pictures and predict what the book might be about.
2. Encourage your child to have control over the book. Have them hold the book and turn the pages by themselves.



3. If your child does not know a word:

- ◆ Give the child time to think about it. Try counting 10 seconds in your head before offering help
- ◆ Your first prompt should be a phonics prompt, e.g. 'What's the first sound in that word?'
- ◆ Sound the word out with a slight pause between each sound e.g. – 'f..r..o..g' encourage them to sound out and blend the sounds back together.
- ◆ Identify the first sound and encourage them to sound out the rest or break the word into syllables.
- ◆ If it is still tricky, tell your child the word and move on with reading.
- ◆ Go back and re-read the sentence with the known word so that it makes sense.

Making Mistakes:

Making mistakes is an important part of learning. Be **supportive** and **encourage** all reading attempts.

- ◆ If the mistake makes sense, e.g. misreading of 'house' for 'home', let them continue to the end of the sentence. Then go back and ask "What word is that?"
- ◆ If the mistake does not make sense, lead the child to correct the mistake by allowing time to self correct. Try not to jump in right away.
- ◆ Reread what the child has said and ask "Does that make sense?"



After reading:

After reading it is very important to talk to your child about what was read and check that they understood what they were reading.

Remember the aim is for your child to become a fluent reader who gets the meaning from texts.

- ◆ Ask your child to orally retell you the story
- ◆ Ask them what they thought of the book. Did they like/ dislike it and why.
- ◆ Ask them to find the piece of text which tells them a special part of the story.
- ◆ Discuss the characters or storyline. What were their favourite parts or were there any surprises for them.
- ◆ Can they think of another ending, or what might happen next?
- ◆ Make connections between the book and real life. Has it ever happened to them or someone they know? How would they feel if it did happen?
- ◆ Ask questions that make them think about what they read. Use the prompts What, When, Where, How and Why?

If you have any concerns
regarding your child's
reading, please contact
the class teacher.



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