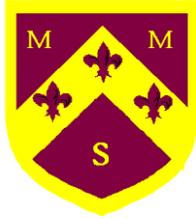


## Maids Moreton C.E. School



### A Parents' Guide to Reading at Home.

At Maids Moreton CE School we aim for children to see reading as an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. We would like them to become confident and fluent readers who read for their own pleasure.

Throughout their time at our school, the help you give your child with reading is very important. The more opportunities your child has to enjoy reading at home the better. Little and often usually works best, so we would ask that you hear your child read or share a book with them every day.

- Choose a quiet time away from distractions like the television or computer games.
- Sit with your child and make it an enjoyable experience. If your child is obviously tired then it is better to choose another time.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement to boost your child's confidence.
- Use phonics as the main approach to decoding unfamiliar words.
- If your child mispronounces, misreads or misses out a word, try not to interrupt too quickly to give them a chance to self-correct.
- Talking about and being able to understand what has been read is just as important as reading the words accurately.
- Try to read lots of different kinds of books, not just your child's school reading book. Read what your child enjoys!
- Read anywhere - make the most of any times your child has to sit and wait and bring a book with you.
- If your child has key word or sound cards to practise, try to practise these daily if possible to develop their sight vocabulary for reading.

If your child can't read a word you could:

- Help them with the initial sound.
- Help them to blend the sounds together.
- Let them work out the word from the context.
- Read the word for them, especially if it is a new word that is difficult to decode, a character's name or an item of unusual vocabulary.
- Pause first, to give them time to work it out; prompt as suggested above and then praise them for trying even if they don't quite get it right.

Developing children's comprehension skills is just as important as their decoding skills. Here are some examples of questions you could ask to extend your child's reading skills.

- When/where did the story take place?
- Can you describe the story setting?
- How would you describe the main character? Why do you think that?
- How is the character feeling at this point in the story? Why?
- Explain how the author made this character seem angry/happy/sad/excited.
- Which words give you the impression that...
- Can you invent a new title for this story?
- What does the word...mean in this context?
- What do you think might happen next?
- Compare the story to other books read, e.g. those from the same author, those with similar themes, morals.
- Did you like the story? Why/why not?
- What word could you use instead of ... in the story?
- What is the main message/moral of the story?
- Sequence the events in the story. What happened first? What happened next?

Please communicate with us at school using your child's reading record. We ask for children to read a minimum of four times a week to ensure they are able to develop their fluency and reach their full potential. Children who have been heard read four times or more each week will be entered into our whole school reading raffle.

We hope you will enjoy reading at home with your child and thank you for your help in supporting their reading development.