

Sharing Books

Quiet Time to Talk:

So your child can hear the words

Reduce distractions: Turn off background noise such as the TV, phone and washing machine.

Choose a quiet time of the day to share books with your child.



Face to Face:

So your child can see your face

Try to sit down at your child's level and turn so that your child can see your face as well as the pictures in the book. Your child will get lots of information from your facial expression.

Pause and Wait:

So your child can take a turn

Count up to 10 watching and waiting for your child to take their turn. See what they do with the book and let them take the lead.

Respond to their turn and follow their lead.

It's ok to just talk about the pictures and not read a book word for word. You

Repeat, Repeat, Repeat:

So your child can learn language and story telling skills.

As you get to know the story, you won't need to read it word for word. This helps you to chat with your child about the story.

Your child will want to have the same story read to them over and over again: this repetition is really good for language learning. When your child is familiar with a book, try leaving a pause for your child to fill in the blanks.

Be Careful With Questions:

So your child can learn language.

Name and describe what is happening in the pictures in the book. Use pictures and objects (props) to help the story 'come alive' for your child. Remember to Pause and Wait after making a comment so your child can take a turn next.

Try to avoid using 'testing questions' e.g. "what's that?", "what colour is it?", "how many ducks are there?"