

How can parents support a reading culture at home?



"Few children learn to love books by themselves. Someone has to lure them into the wonderful world of the written word: someone has to show them the way."

- Orville Prescott

- Read aloud to children. It helps them to learn the language of books and will encourage them to enjoy books and reading. Reading with your child helps to establish their love of books and make them lifelong readers.
- Discuss books, read together and make reading an enjoyable, shared activity.
 - a. Give your child time to comment on what they read or hear.
 - b. Talk about the story. Share your opinions of the plot and what happens to the characters.
 - c. Encourage your child to make predictions about the text that is being read.
- It is important to read to your child in your home language if your first language is not English. Experience shows that using your home language will help your child to learn to read in English.
- Try not to let television intrude on reading time. Make a special time for reading with your child, away from interruption.
- Give books as treats and presents.
- If your child is a reluctant reader of story books you can encourage reading through all sorts of other material that might interest them - comics, newspapers, graphic novels etc. Explore factual books and websites about specific topics of interest.
- Take regular trips to the library with your child. Explore what is available in the children's/young adult section together or ask the Librarian to recommend suitable texts.
- Set an example- ensure that your child sees you reading for pleasure. Talk to them about books you are enjoying or news articles that you have found interesting.

