

What do I do when my child isn't sure of a word?

Wait a few seconds. Give that young mind time to think. Often your child will work it out by themselves.

If they still don't know the word, try the following steps.

- Look together at the beginning of the word and help your child to work out the first sound.
- Talk about possible words that would make sense in the sentence.
- Suggest that your child look for clues in the pictures.
- Ask your child to go back to the beginning of the sentence or to read on to the end of the sentence.

If they still don't know the word, tell them. Then encourage your child to read the sentence again. Praise your child.

What do I do when my child doesn't understand the meaning of what they are reading?

Relate what happens in the story to your children's experiences.

Use the pictures to help you talk about the story.

What if the book seems too hard?

Your child will be familiar with most of the books they bring home, but if one is too hard, read it to your child instead. It's probably too hard if your child has difficulty with 5 words in 50.

If your child often brings home books that are too hard, talk to their teacher.

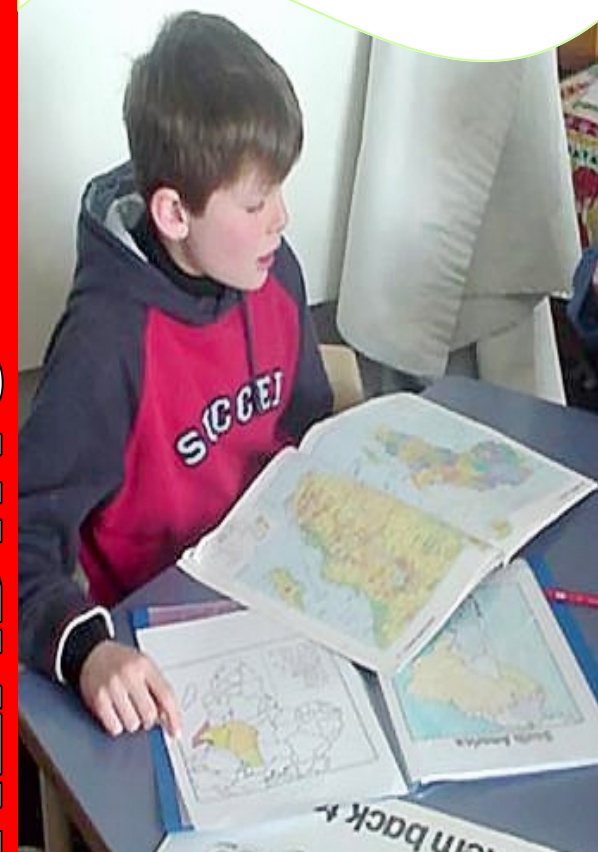
Should we read other things as well as the reading books at school?

Yes. Together, read words wherever you find them. Read and talk about shop signs, labels, shopping lists, instructions, tickets, and name tags. Read favourite books – again, and again, and again! You could go to a library or bookshop to choose a book. Let your child see you reading.

If you want to know more about helping your child to read or about your child's progress, ask their teacher. He or she will be glad to help.

Wakari School

Helping your children read books from school!



READING

Value your child's efforts

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Feed the Mind

tūwhana te ngakau



You can help your child to read.

A little time spent sharing the books that your child brings home from school will make a difference to their reading.



Get involved in your child's learning. Make it fun!

Find a time to read together.

- Share reading times of 10 to 15 minutes, three to four times a week.
- Choose a time that suits both of you. After a meal is better than before because it's hard for a hungry child to concentrate. Find a time that doesn't compete with a favourite TV programme.
- Try to avoid interruptions.

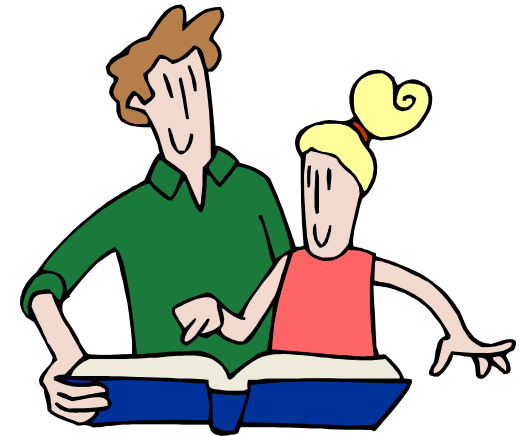


Find a place to read together.

You can read together anywhere:

- At the kitchen table
- In bed
- On the floor.

Make sure it's a place where you both feel comfortable.



Look at the book together.

- Talk about the book together.
- Then listen to your child read.
- Talk about it again afterwards.

Encourage and praise your young reader.