Reading at home

How to encourage your child to become a strong reader and a book lover for the rest of their lives!

Share a book at home

(information sourced from School A-Z http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/)

Children love to hear a story read aloud. Try reading with different voices, lots of emotion, invented sound effects and funny faces. Change the tone in your voice and vary the volume. Have fun and enjoy it.

Practice reading before sharing a book. Listen to your child talk about the story and the pictures. Try asking your child which parts of the books they found exciting, funny or different.

Give your child the chance to choose a book to read. Try reading to your child and, at other times, ask your child to join in reading the book.

Let your child hear how 'hill' and 'home' start with the same sound or how 'trouble' and 'bubble' rhyme.

Research the internet

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When children use the internet they need skills and knowledge that are different from those found in books and other printed materials. These skills include such things as links, images, icons and searching.

The internet is a wonderful resource for finding things to support your child’s literacy development. If you are searching for a good book to read to your child, try entering a publisher or an author's name into a reliable search engine such as Google. Some reliable publishers include Scholastic, Penguin, Allen & Unwin and Pan Macmillan. These publishers have their own databases that will allow you to preview recent releases, read sample extracts and covers and read brief overviews. You can also search for books at the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge or the Children's Book Council of Australia.

Join the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Encourage your child to enter in the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge to develop their love of reading. To qualify for the challenge children must read a certain number of books from the selected book lists within a specific time frame. There are hundreds of titles on the book lists that include humour, fantasy, mysteries, poetry, sport and factual books.
Useful websites for literacy from TaLE (Teaching and Learning Exchange)

http://www.kidsreads.com/ All about books

http://www.roalddahl.com/ The official Roald Dahl website

http://www.narnia.com find out all about the world of the Narnia books

http://www.sebastianswan.org.uk/ Sebastian Swan Infant Explorer

http://www.peterrabbit.co.uk/ The interactive site of the books of Beatrix Potter

http://www.anholt.co.uk/ Catherine and Laurence Anholt website

http://www.lynechapman.co.uk/ Lynn Chapman's website

http://pagesperso-orange.fr/paulandemmarogers/ Paul and Emma Rogers' website

http://www.annefine.co.uk/ Anne Fine's website

http://www.legendworld.co.uk/ The website of Dragon sightings, read or report about them

http://www.myhomelibrary.org 'My Home Library' - download lots of different bookplates from Anne Fine

http://www.kidsatrrandomhouse.co.uk/ Kids at Random House, book reviews and more

http://www.achuka.co.uk Lots about books