Billing Brook

How can I support my child with reading?

What can I do at home?



Small steps make a big difference

Children with **SEND** need lots of **repetition** and **overlearning** of **reading skills**, both at school and at home.

The best way you can support your child's reading is by **encouraging** a **love of reading**, and **spending time** looking through books, talking about the pictures and story, and **reading together each day**.

Reading is about much more than getting your child to read to you, it is just as beneficial for you to read to them, particularly early on.

You should **continue to read with your child**, even as they get older, to support their understanding of new words, and to ask them questions about what they have read.

You could try the following...

1 Read in short bursts



e.g. 10 minutes in the morning and 10 minutes later in the day.

2 Take turns in reading



or even read at the same time as each other. You could read one page, and your child read the next.

3 Make reading a relaxing experience



Make the environment cosy and friendly – bean bags, soft cushions, stuffed toys and blankets all help to create a soothing environment.

4 Model reading the words



You read the sentence first, then your child reads it back to you.

5 Read the same book multiple times



This is really important for children who struggle with reading.

6 Take your child to a local book shop or the library.



Choose a book together.

7 Encourage your child to read with or to other children



This could be with siblings, friends, family or imaginary friends e.g. teddy bears.

8 Pick out tricky words and use flashcards



You can then play games with learning these single words in isolation.



Reading builds confidence, develops skills and opens up a world of possibilities.

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