

## Supporting Readers At Home

Arlington ISD



### Where Do I Start?

- Read aloud to your child every day, even older children.

Reading aloud provides a good model, expands vocabulary, stimulates curiosity and imagination.

### The Parent As A Reader

- You are the most important person in your child's life.
- If you model a love and enjoyment for reading, your child is more likely to follow.

### Make Reading Fun!

- Find a quiet and comfortable place to read.
- Make reading time fun and rewarding for you and your child.
- Establish a daily or nightly routine.
- Allow your child to have choice in which books are read.
- Choose a variety of books.

### Tips for Reading Together

- Discuss the book!
- Talk about the book before you read it.
- Have we read other books by this author/illustrator?
- What do you remember about them?

### Tips for Reading Together

- Look at the pictures, and have conversations about what you notice.
- Ask questions ... what is happening in this picture?
- Ask your child to make a predictions about what might happen in the story.

### Tips for Reading Together

- While reading to younger children, use your finger to point to the words as you read along so your child can follow.
- Stop once or twice to ask questions like:
- Why do you think the character said or did that?
- How do you think he/she feels?
- What do you think will happen next?
- If you are reading a non-fiction book, you may want to comment on new or surprising information.

### Tips for Reading Together

- At the end of a book, help your child make connections between this book and other books or their own experiences.
- Ask questions like: What was your favorite part of the book?
- We read another book about this, didn't we? What happened in that book?
- This book reminds me of the time when ... do you remember?

### Tips for Reading Together

- Discuss vocabulary that may be new for your child.
- Call the new words, "interesting or exciting words."
- Make statements like ... " Mmm, I love that word – whisker. Can you explain what a whisker is?"
- The goal here is to provide opportunity for conversation.
- Listen carefully to your child's response and see if you can find a way to extend it to build vocabulary and encourage a fuller expression of ideas.

### Tips for Reading Together

- Practice visualization with your child. This strengthens comprehension.
- The more detail children can imagine, the more they will immerse themselves in what they are reading thus making the book more memorable

### Visualization Cont...

- The best way to encourage your child to visualize is to describe the visual images that come to your mind as you read aloud.
- Ask questions like: What do you see when I read this sentence? What sounds do you hear? What do the characters look like?

### Tips for Reading Together

- Choose a variety of books, magazines, and other media (poetry, fiction, non-fiction, comics etc...)
- Allow your child choice in which books are read.
- Reluctant readers will need encouragement. Find books on topics that interest them (animals, sports, bikes, cars, biographies)

### Most Important Tip...

- Don't try all of these strategies in one sit down session of reading. Try one at a time to avoid overwhelming your child and making the experience less enjoyable for them.

### Listening Level vs. Reading Level

- Be aware that reading -levels and listening-levels are different.
- Read easy books with your child.
- Read more advanced books to your child.
- Talk to your child's teacher about which books will be good to practice with at home.

### Ask the Teacher...

- Ask your child's teacher what areas need to be targeted when you're reading at home.
- Ask them for materials to send home if your child needs new books to read at home.

### Utilize the Library – School and Public

- Open a library account.
- Visit the library together.
- Help your child find exciting books.
- Take time to read a few books at the library.
- Check out summer reading programs!

### Thank you!

- Have a great time reading to your child at home.

