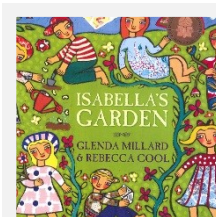


Listening to your child read

Things to do before reading:

- Look at the front cover and talk about what the book might be about.
- Look through the book together.
- Talk about unfamiliar words and the characters' names.



Things to do during reading: (Pause, Prompt, Praise)

Pause:

Allow your child time to work out tricky words. Give them at least five seconds before prompting.

If the word is not likely to be known, say it quickly to maintain fluency and avoid loss of meaning.

Prompt:

Does it make sense?

- ♦ Look for a clue in the illustrations.
- ♦ You said... Does this make sense?
- ♦ Read on past the difficult word. Does this give you any clues?
- ♦ Read that again. What word would make sense?

Prompt:

Does it look right?

Does it sound right?

- ♦ What sound does the first letter make?
- ♦ Sound out the word i.e. blend the letter-sounds.
- ♦ Look at the word ? You said . . . Does that match the letters?
- ♦ Break the word into syllables or chunks.

- ♦ You said . . . Can we say it that way?
- ♦ Does the word have smaller words inside it that you already know?

Praise:

Accept and praise your child's efforts and achievements.

Things to do after reading:

- ♦ Talk about a similar experience your child might have had.
- ♦ Ask: "Which was your favourite character?" "Where did the story take place?"
- ♦ Talk about what was learnt if it was an informative texts e.g. "What did you find out about insects from this diagram?"
- ♦ Clarify vocabulary, 'What do you think ...means?'

