Enjoing Reading

A guide for parents
Encouraging children to read

Why?

When?

How?

What?

Where?
What?

Anything and everything!
- Environmental print e.g. signs, notices, labels, captions etc
- Variety of books / texts
- Cloth books
- Nursery rhymes
- Finger songs
- Alphabet books
- Picture books
- Stories
- Poems
- Non-fiction texts
- Remember reading is all around us

Allow your child to hear his / her favourite stories time after time.
Where?

Anywhere!

- In the home
- In the bedroom
- Book shop
- Library
- Surgery, Dentist, Shops

The atmosphere is so important!

Why?

Because:

- Children enjoy listening to a story
- Reading helps to develop language and thinking skills
- Reading helps a child to develop emotionally
When?

ANYTIME!

- Make time to read with your child every day
- 10 minutes a day is ideal
- Don't forget to read to your child, purely for pleasure

NOT

Only at bedtime
When your child is busy playing
When watching his / her favourite TV programme
When he / she is tired

Books should be as important to your child as his / her toys.

If your child enjoys stories, he / she will want to read them for himself / herself.
How?

Look, discuss and enjoy books together
- Read aloud with expression
- Chat about the book
- Sometimes act out the story
- Ask questions about the story and pictures

- What do you think is going to happen next?
- Who is this?
- Why is he sad / happy?
- Why is your favourite character and why?
- Which is your favourite part of the story? Why?

- Follow the text with your finger
- Allow your child to follow with his / her finger also
- Read together
- It is important to praise your child continuously
Activities to support reading:

- Look for familiar words in the text
- Use magnetic letters to make words
- Use magnetic letters to make words beginning with the same sound
- Look for words within words e.g. teacher > each
- Think of words that rhyme e.g. big + pig

HAVE FUN!
HOME AND SCHOOL LINKS

Once your child has started school it's important to continue to read at home also.

- Reading doesn't need to be more formal now
- Continue to read a variety of books to your child
- Work with the teacher / school. Your support is important.
- Don't forget the favourites. Re-reading books gives your child confidence.
- Don't push your child. He / she will come in his / her own time if it's enjoyable.
Bilingualism -
How can you support your child with reading?

- Look at pictures in a Welsh story book and talk about them in English
- Read stories in English to your child. Ask your child to give the Welsh word for certain terms
- Invite your child to tell you in English about a story he / she has read in Welsh
  - What is the story about?
  - Describe the characters
  - Ask your child to give his / her opinion about certain aspects
- Perhaps you could read the same story in Welsh and English
I'm unable to speak Welsh, but I would like to help my child

What should I do?

- Be supportive
- Talk about the pictures
- Use story tapes and books
- Celebrate your child's success
- Ask the teacher if you have any concerns