

Looks at Books with Pre-Schoolers

Your child is becoming more independent but will still love curling up on the sofa with you and a book. They will love the rhythm of language and getting their tongue around new words and phrases. Books are fantastic for teaching new vocabulary, and research shows that children who have a wide vocabulary (who know and use lots of words) by the end of their early years go on to have higher educational success. We should be aiming to stretch and challenge children's use of words to give them the very best start whilst their brains are able to develop at the fastest rate.

We have included a book for you to read with your child. Read the story, explaining any less familiar words. Try to remember these words and use them at other times.

As they start to recognise letters or words, point these out too. Show them that a book has a hardcover to protect the thinner pages. Often the pages have numbers on. The writing on the back of the book telling you about it is called the blurb. That's a great word!

Read a range of books or leaflets with your child. Toy catalogues and cookery books can be fascinating for children. Sometimes adult books with only a few pictures are popular if they have details about something your child is interested in. Encourage their imagination by asking questions like "If you had this toy, where would you keep it" or "who would you make this cake for?"

A great storybook is such amazing value if it can have an impact on your child's life that reaches way beyond their nursery years.