Helping your child with reading at home

Here are some literacy and reading activities that you could do when supporting your child at home

**Some purposeful activities can include:**

- **Reading with or to your child** or have the child read one of their ‘just right’ books to you. Focus on talking about the book as you are reading. Discussion is valuable. You could ask:


  If the child gets stuck on a word, help them to think about – ‘What could make sense here?’ ‘Does that sound right?’ ‘Let’s re-read this part together.’

- Practising some of the **words from personal spelling or sight words from the classroom word wall, by writing them on a small whiteboard.** You write the word – show the child how to: Look at the word, say the word, spell the word, take a picture of the word in your brain, cover the word, check the word, then have them write it another 2-3 times

- Take a sentence from one of your child’s books – write it on a sentence strip and then **cut the word up into individual words** – see if they can put the sentence back together by themselves and re-read the sentence and then check it with the original in the book
• Play a game of ‘**hang person**’ using one of the sight words or words from one of their books

• Use sight word flashcards see if your child can read the words one by one. Put the words out on the table. Play **I’m thinking of a word that rhymes with…** eg if the word is can, you would say…‘I’m thinking of a word that rhymes with man, can you find that word?’

• Ask your child to choose one of their favourite **books or poems** – read the book together focussing on fluency and expression. Talk about the story. Ask them to find particular words or punctuation or letters/sounds after you have read the book.

• **Play the syllable game** – eg. Clap their name, your name has _ syllable. Clap other names of family and friends. Choose words from their book - little has 2 syllables, listen while I clap the word, litt-le – little, can you think of another word that has 2 syllables and clap it OR tell your child you are going to say a word slowly in its parts or syllables – you say litt-le, what is that word, see if they can say the complete word (use words from the sight word list or words from their book) You can also reverse this – you say the complete word and the child has to clap it into syllable parts!

• Choose a non-fiction book that your child has an interest in. Talk about what they already know about the topic. Read parts of the book together – talk about what new information we found out!