



Shared reading: A Technique to get your Child Reading.

Shared Reading: How does it work?

There are two stages which gradually merge into each other: 1 Reading Together, 2 Letting Go.

1. Reading Together:

- The parent and child read a book that is suitable to the child's reading ability, together and at the same time. The parent matches the child's speed of reading.
- With a problem word the parent says the word immediately and the child repeats.
- Make observations to show you are enjoying the story and ask questions occasionally to ensure he understands what he is reading.
- 7-10 minutes a session is best at this stage. Stop at a natural break in the story.
- Praise the child.

2. Letting Go.

- Gradually lower your voice during the reading.
- Allow the child's voice to dominate.
- Begin to drop out of the reading.
- Re-join as soon as the child gets a word wrong or begins to struggle with a word. Continue reading with him until you feel he is ready to continue on his own. Then drop out again.
- Praise him.

Further Advice: A story before bed would be good, as it does not compete with television and it gives the child a few more minutes of a wake time. Allow the child to progress at his own rate. Always praise the child, as he is doing his best. Continue to read to your child after he has mastered the basics.