

**Ways to support your
child with their literacy
and help them to
succeed**

KS2



The term 'literacy' refers to the skills of Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing. All these skills are interlinked so the more you practise Speaking and Listening, the better reader you become; the more you read, the better writer you become. It all helps develop a wider vocabulary and awareness of the use of language and tone for different situations.

This guide is designed to offer some practical and fun suggestions for ways in which you can help your child to develop essential literacy skills. Some of them may be things you already do, others may be ideas that other parents have found successful. You can help your child by modelling the use of language, engaging them in discussion, letting them see you read, whether it be books, magazines or online news. Share opinions and make time for talking about what you have read or done.

Speaking and Listening is the foundation for both Reading and Writing; it is important that you devote some time each day to talk to your child about the things you've both been doing.

- * Watching the news, or Newsround which is aimed at young people, with your child once or twice a week and discussing the reports and events will help develop a child's speaking and listening skills.

Here are some games:

- * Word Tennis This is an adaptable game of quick-fire word play. The players think of a category, for example adjectives that might be applied to an object, animal, and like tennis, the players throw words at each other until one of them runs out of words or uses an incorrect word.
- * Example: Category — Adjectives describing lions
Player 1— Fearsome Player 2 — Majestic
Player 1— Protective Player 2 — Hunted... etc.

- * Car Number Plates - The aim of this game is to make up short sentences using words that begin with letters from car number plates. Example: EN79 AAG would give you the letters E N A A G, which could become Even Numbers Are Always Grouchy.
- * Coffee Pot—One player chooses a person, place or thing and writes in onto a label. This is then stuck to another player's forehead. The second player must try to identify who, where or what they are by asking questions of the other players.
- * Encourage them to expand their vocabulary by thinking of alternative words- make it a game, played little and often e.g. how many words can you think of that mean 'big' or 'sad'?
- * Leading by example is effective - let your child see you using a dictionary to check your spellings and encourage them to do the same.

- * Word chains - Use the last letter of one word as the first two of the next and see who can make the longest chain e.g. apple - lemon - onion
- * Boggle - a game for the whole family to see who can make the most words from the letters shown.
- * Hangman
- * Wordsearches and crosswords are a good way to extend vocabulary and practise spellings.
- * Talk to your child about the characters in a story. What do they like/dislike about them?
- * Let your child see you reading.



Have fun!



