

Reading activities for home

Monday

TAKE HOME READER

- Ask your child to look at the front cover, and tell you what they see in the pictures and words. (Do they recognise letters, words, pictures, colours etc)
- Ask your child, what they think the story is about? Just from looking at the cover.
- Open the book, Just start by looking at the pictures on each page and ask your child to describe each picture and what they think it is, or what might be happening.
- If your child is a fluent reader, then ask them to read the 'Take home book'.
- If your child is learning to read, you read the book to them first!
- Then ask your child to read the story, ensure that your child is pointing at each word as they read. (If your child can not recognise words, maybe ask them to find letters)
- Ask your child questions relating to the story using question starters such as; who, what, when, where, how, why and which! This will enable you to check your child's comprehension and understanding.

Tuesday

ALTERNATIVE READING ACTIVITY

Story talk

Talking about what you read is another way to help children develop language and thinking skills. You won't need to plan the talk, discuss every story, or expect an answer.

What you'll need:

Storybooks you have at home or go to the local library to do this!

What to do:

- Read slowly and pause occasionally to think aloud about a story. You can say: "I wonder what's going to happen next!" Or ask a question: "Do you know what a palace is?" Or point out: "Look where the little mouse is now."
- Answer your children's questions, and if you think they don't understand something, stop and ask them. Don't worry if you break into the flow of a story to make something clear. But keep the story flowing as smooth as possible.
- Talking about stories they read helps children develop their vocabularies, link stories to everyday life, and use what they know about the world to make sense out of stories.

Wednesday

TAKE HOME READER

- Ask your child if they remember what happened in the book, your child may need prompting through the use of various questions.
- Ask your child to read the story, ensure that your child is pointing at each word as they read. (You can also include some of the other reading strategies that are in the 'Katandra Parent Guide' such as Echo Reading, Shared Reading and NIM).
- The class may have a 'Letter or Word of the Week', if not as a family choose one. Ask your child to find words that start with the letter, or find the word and tell you where they are.

- Ask your child some questions relating to their feelings of the book, or problem solving if possible; Examples are-
 - What did you like about the story? Do you have a favourite part or picture?
 - What don't you like about the story?
 - If there was a problem, ask your child... What might have happened if Johnny did things differently... etc
 - How would you change the ending of the story?
- Ask your child to draw, paint or colour a picture relating to the story. Allow them to share this with family or friends.

Thursday

ALTERNATIVE READING ACTIVITY

World of words

Here are a few ways to create a home rich in words.

What you'll need:

- Paper; Pencils, crayons, markers; Glue; Newspapers, magazines; Safety scissors

What to do:

- Hang posters of the alphabet on the bedroom walls or make an alphabet poster with your child. Print the letters in large type. Capital letters are usually easier for young children to learn first.
- Label the things in your child's pictures. If your child draws a picture of a house, label it with "house." and put it on the refrigerator.
- Have your child watch you write when you make a shopping list or a "what to do" list. Say the words aloud and carefully print each letter.
- Let your child make lists, too. Help your child form the letters and spell the words.
- Look at newspapers and magazines with your child. Find an interesting picture and show it to your child as you read the caption aloud. Or use pictures to make a letter or a word book.
- Create a scrapbook. Cut out pictures of people and places and label them.

Friday

TAKE HOME READER

- Ask your child to read the story to you, or alternatively you can take turns reading each page.
- Ask your child questions about the story that may relate to their own life.
- Ask your child any comments on the book that you can write in the reading log. It can be simple questions as. I liked the book, it was too hard etc.
- Do an extension activity relating to something in the book- This may include a craft activity making a model of something, if there is a ball in the book spending 5 minutes kicking a ball similar to the characters in the book, if there is something of interest to your child perhaps research it on the internet or look for something related on YouTube.

Remember at the end of the week CONGRATULATE your child and reward great progress! Children love showing you their best and being praised for their abilities 😊

