

Phonics

Understanding Speech Sounds



- **Robot or Sound Talk** words and get your child to blend the sounds back together: sh-i-p = ship; l-o-ck-ed = locked.

- Give your child a word and see if they can Robot or Sound Talk it back for you: reading = r-ea-d-i-ng; school = s-ch-oo-l.

- Use a **phoneme fist** when trying to segment a word for spelling to make sure the child hears every sound (phoneme) and then they must choose a letter or letter combination (graphemes) to represent that sound (phoneme).

- **Tap or clap** a word to hear the syllable parts and try to match the sounds in each part with letter choices (se-pa-rate).

- Look for **basewords** inside longer words (slow-ly; slow-er; slow-est).

- Use a **Have-A-Go** sheet at home with your children so that they can attempt a word and then use a range of strategies for a second or third attempt.

FLUENCY

Reading effortlessly, expressively and automatically.

- **Share** favourite books at home where you and your child might take turns reading paragraphs or pages and **model** fluency with your reading.

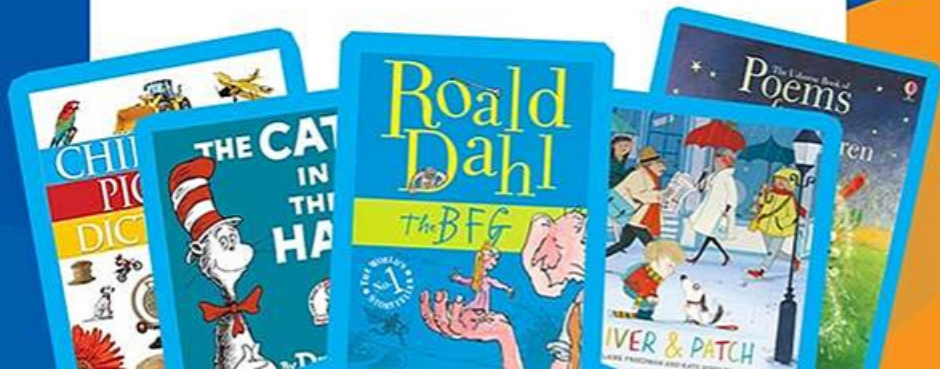
- **'Good Fit'** Books (Home Readers) should be read aloud for part of the time so that you can listen for fluency in your child's reading.

- **Oxford Sight Words** we are working on at school - use flash cards with those words they might be struggling to read automatically.

- **Paired reading** - read the text together and the more able partner gradually fades out as the less able reader gains confidence.

- **Poetry** reading where the text has predictable rhyme and rhythm (Dr Seuss).

- **Read along books** with CDs so the child is imitating and joining in with fluent reading.



- Set up a **'WOW Word Wall'** at home with new words you are learning.

- Stop and talk about an interesting or challenging word in shared books and try to explain the word and its use.

- Select a **quality word** and see how many new words you can build from the word e.g. satisfy - satisfying, satisfied, satisfaction.

- Set up a **family challenge** each day for all of you to learn a new word - share its meaning and its spelling.

- Always try to use new words in sentences to show their meaning and correct usage.

Vocabulary

Growing Your Child's Word Brain

