

How to develop language using books

- ✓ Don't worry about reading the story itself- this doesn't have to be the focus of reading a book
- ✓ Look at the pictures together
- ✓ Encourage your child to turn the pages from the start to the end. Use words like 'first', 'next' and 'last' as you talk about the book. For example 'What's happening first?' 'Shall we see what's on the last page?'
- ✓ Comment on the pictures and describe what is happening in the pictures for your child. This will help them to learn the language.
- ✓ Try to avoid asking too many questions to your child; focus on giving a commentary of what is happening in the pictures
- ✓ Use who, where, when and what happened questions to ask about the book at the end. Look at the pictures as you do this. Use the Makaton signs if you know them
- ✓ Encourage your child to tell you the story themselves or retell the story whilst you turn through the pages
- ✓ At the end of each page ask your child

Make Reading Fun!

- Choose books which you think your child will enjoy
- Don't worry about reading the story if your child does not want to sit still! Just focus on enjoying the pictures and the characters
- Visit your local library and explore the books for free. There are often activity days at libraries where children can listen to stories and complete activities

Understanding 'not' and 'don't': 'That's not my...' books, Monkey Puzzle.

Rhyming books to help with phonics: Julia Donaldson books e.g. Room on the Broom, The Gruffalo. Each Peach Pear Plum.

Books that teach orders and sequences: 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear What do you See?' 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'

Books that teach position words

Looking at Books

Looking at books together is a really good way to help children learn words and understand language. This is because it involves joint attention (where you and the child are looking at the same thing at the same time). This is really important in language learning.

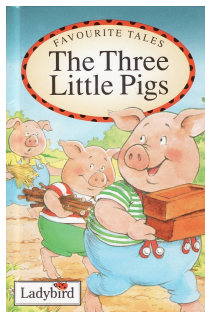
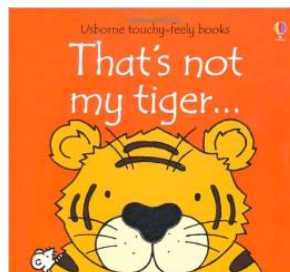
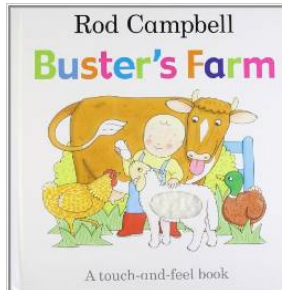
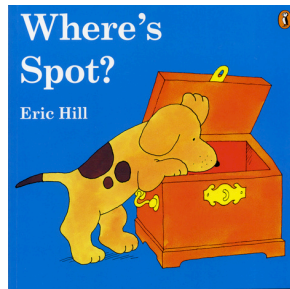
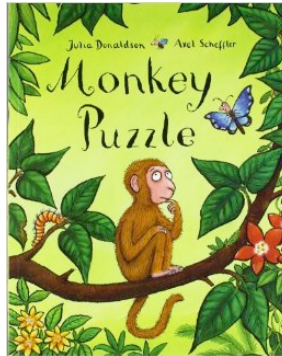
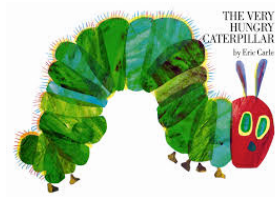
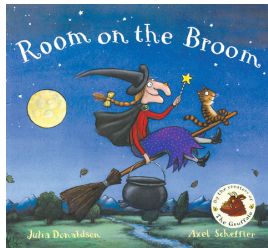
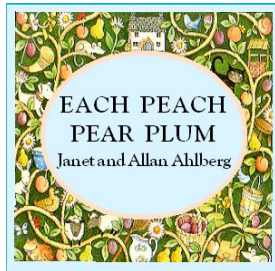
This leaflet is designed to help support you in using books to improve your child's talking and understanding. By doing this you will help them with their learning at school.

Watching Television

Children can learn facts from watching TV but cannot learn how to talk and communicate.

However, children can sometimes be supported in learning language whilst watching the TV. This can

Books that help children learn different parts of language:



Language Learning through Reading

