

Templestowe Park Primary School

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Reading for Meaning

To encourage reading for meaning try the following prompts:

- Does that make sense?
- Try that again and think what would make sense / sound right
- Think about the story and quickly go back (to the beginning of the sentence)

To encourage active problem-solving and searching say:

- You try
- Start to say the word, thinking about what would make sense and look right
- What can you do when you come to a word you don't know?
- Look at the picture

When your child self-corrects or attempts to do so, congratulate them, saying:

- I like the way you found out what was wrong all by yourself
- Good working out
- You were thinking about the story

To discourage an over-reliance on 'sounding out' say:

- Get your mouth ready to say the word
- Start to say more of the word and think about the story (looking for letters that go together, like 'ch' and 'ing')
- Do you know a word like that?

To encourage fluency and phrasing say:

- Whenever you come to 'the' or 'a' quickly say the next word
- Run the words together to sound like talking
- Read the punctuation as well as the words

After having read the text, talk with your child about the story to encourage deeper thinking about the meaning and to make connections. The following prompts could help:

- What were you thinking when ...?
- I wonder why ...?
- What did you notice ...?

