

Reading is such an important life skill. At Bridge Road your child has been learning letter sounds, blends, sight words, building on their vocabulary, improving their reading fluency, expression and comprehension of many different text types.

Over the holidays, all their hard work needs to be consolidated, revised and practised, this way when they start the new school year they will have mastered some skills over the holidays and not forgotten them! The importance of reading regularly with your child and having your child read to you cannot be stressed enough. Your child should be reading for at least 20 minutes each day. Here are some strategies to help build confident readers.

## Before Reading

**Predicting and activating prior knowledge:**

Talk to your child about the book before you start reading.

- What is the title?
- Do you know anything about the words in the title?
- Who is the author?
- Look at the picture on the front cover – what does it tell you?
- Browse through the book
- What might this book be about?



## During Reading

**What can you do to help your child read the words?**

Ask them:

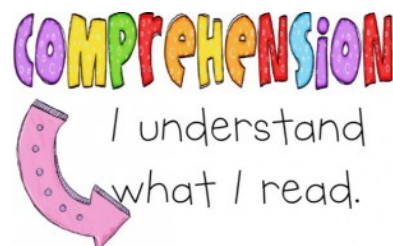
- Look at the picture. Does it help you to work out the word?
- Look at the beginning sounds.
- Sound out each letter and blend it together.
- Does it make sense? Does it sound right?
- What chunks or little words can you see in the word?
- Make sure they go back and re-read the sentence smoothly.



## After Reading

**Ask your child:**

- What happened?
- Who? What? Where? And When? Questions
- What did you learn?
- What did you like? and Why did you like it?



**Reading can be a wonderful way to spend quality time with your child.**