

Reading Strategies

A good reader uses strategies to solve unknown words.

1. Check the picture
2. Get your mouth ready to make the first sound.
3. Does it sound right?
4. If it doesn't sound right, go back and read it again.
5. Look for chunks. (Example: and in the word stand)

Parents can use these prompts to support the use of strategies when your child is reading.

To support early reading behaviors:

Read it with your finger. (point and match words)
Did it match?
Were there enough words?
Can you find _____? (a known or new word)
Read that again and start the word.

To support the reader's use of self monitoring or checking behavior:

Were you right?
Where's the tricky word? (after an error)
What did you notice? (after hesitation or stop)
What's wrong?
Would _____ make sense?
Do you think it looks like _____?
Check it. Does it look right and sound right to you?
Try that again.

To support the reader's use of all sources of information:

Check the picture.
Does that make sense?
Does that look right?
Does that sound right?
You said (...) Can we say it that way?
Try that again and think what would make sense.
Do you know a word like that?
What can you do to help yourself?

To support the reader's self-correction behavior:

Something wasn't quite right.
Try that again.
I liked the way you worked that out.
You made a mistake. Can you find it?

To support phrased, fluent reading:

Can you read this quickly?
Put your words together so it sounds like talking.