



# Homework CLUB

## READING TO CHILDREN SO THEY WILL LISTEN

**Books open a world of magic to children. They transport them to different worlds. Introduce them to new adventures.**

To optimise the reading experience, a relationship of trust needs to be established between the reader and the listener/s. This often takes time, but by using the following techniques, you can speed up the process.

- 1 Show them the cover of the book. Focus on the illustration. Ask them:**
  - What do they think the story is going to be about?
  - Who do you think will be in this story?
  - Where is this story going to happen?
- 2 Read them the title of the story. Again, involve them in a brief conversation:**
  - Who do you think this person/dog/animal is?
  - Where do you think this story will happen?
  - What do you think is going to happen to...?
- 3 When I read this story to you, we might learn the answers to these questions. Are you ready for me to begin, or is there something else you want to tell me or know about?**
  - Remember... you may be the first person who has given this child your total, and undivided attention all week! Listen to them!
- 4 Reading to a child requires you to be prepared to cast off any feelings of self-consciousness.**
  - The best readers are prepared to use different tones of voice, improvisation, pull funny faces! Children love this and it will allow you as the reader to truly immerse yourself in the joy of the story.
- 5 Read slowly. Use a gentle voice most of the time. Use lots of intonation.**
  - This keeps children interested. Allow time for children to ask questions before you turn each page.
- 6 Once you are finished, ask the child:**
  - "Do you want to hear this story again?", or
  - "Do you want a different story"?

*Homework Club is an initiative of*

**WHO DID  
YOU  
HELP  
TODAY?**

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