





Helping Your Child Read and Write at Home







Reading Strategies

Don't panic!

- Most beginning readers are inconsistent

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- ? You may wonder if your child is on track
 - ? You don't understand why your child can't read a word today that they were able to read yesterday
 - ? You may think your child reads too slowly
 - ? A child may only want to read the same book over and over again

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- ? Your child may read a word correctly on one page, but they have to stop and sound it out again on the next page
 - ? When you listen to a beginning reader, you hear short, choppy words with little attention to punctuation
 - ? Sometimes a new reader can tell you very little about what they just read

- At the beginning stage of reading, all of these reading behaviours are to be expected.
- Beginning readers are building their fluency (building on working memory)
- This takes time and energy!

Learning to read is like learning to walk. It takes time and practice and lots of mistakes before we get it right – even then sometimes we still stumble.



What we Know

- Teaching young children to recognise the letters of the alphabet is a big boost to reading readiness.
- Reading to children helps them to understand about books and print
 - there is a message
 - there is a structure
 - there is a link between the words on the page and what they hear as a story is being read to them.





Before Reading

- Talk about the book before you start
 - look at the pictures, the cover, the title.
 - Ask what they think it is about
 - Go through the book page by page
 - Talk about the pictures or words or ideas that might be in the book



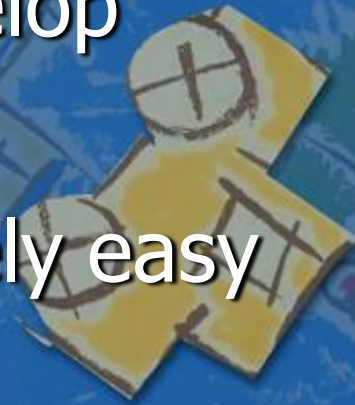
For Children who are learning to read:

- Read the first couple of pages so they know what the book is about



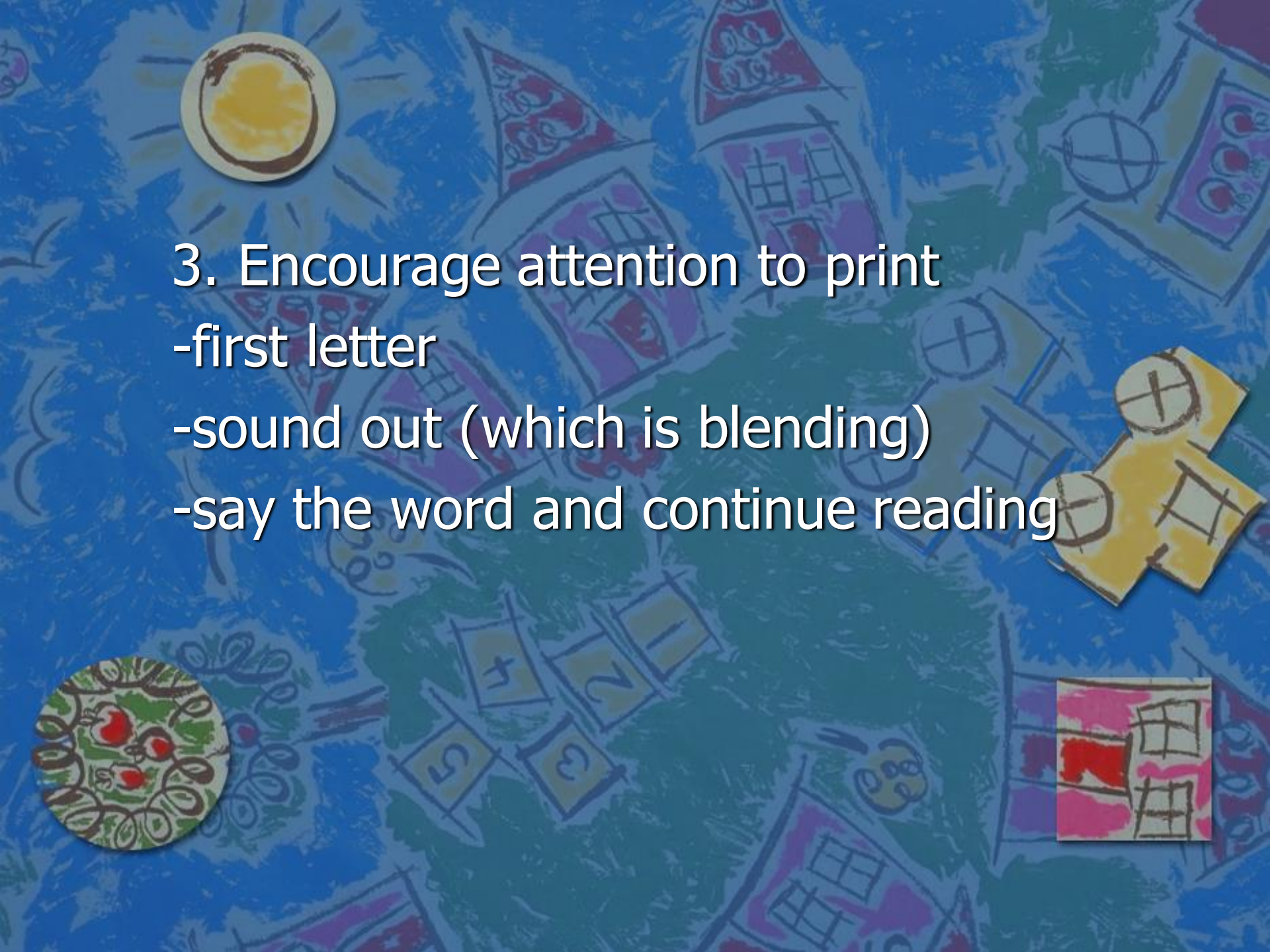
Steps to Follow

1. Give them time to read.
 - It is a skill and takes time to develop
 - reading to or with someone
 - the books used should be relatively easy



2. Let them reread the same books
-This builds fluency



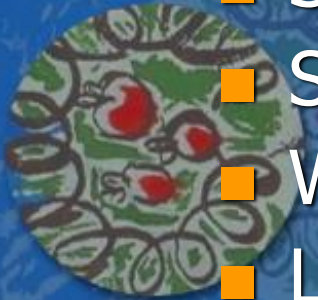
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3. Encourage attention to print
- first letter
 - sound out (which is blending)
 - say the word and continue reading

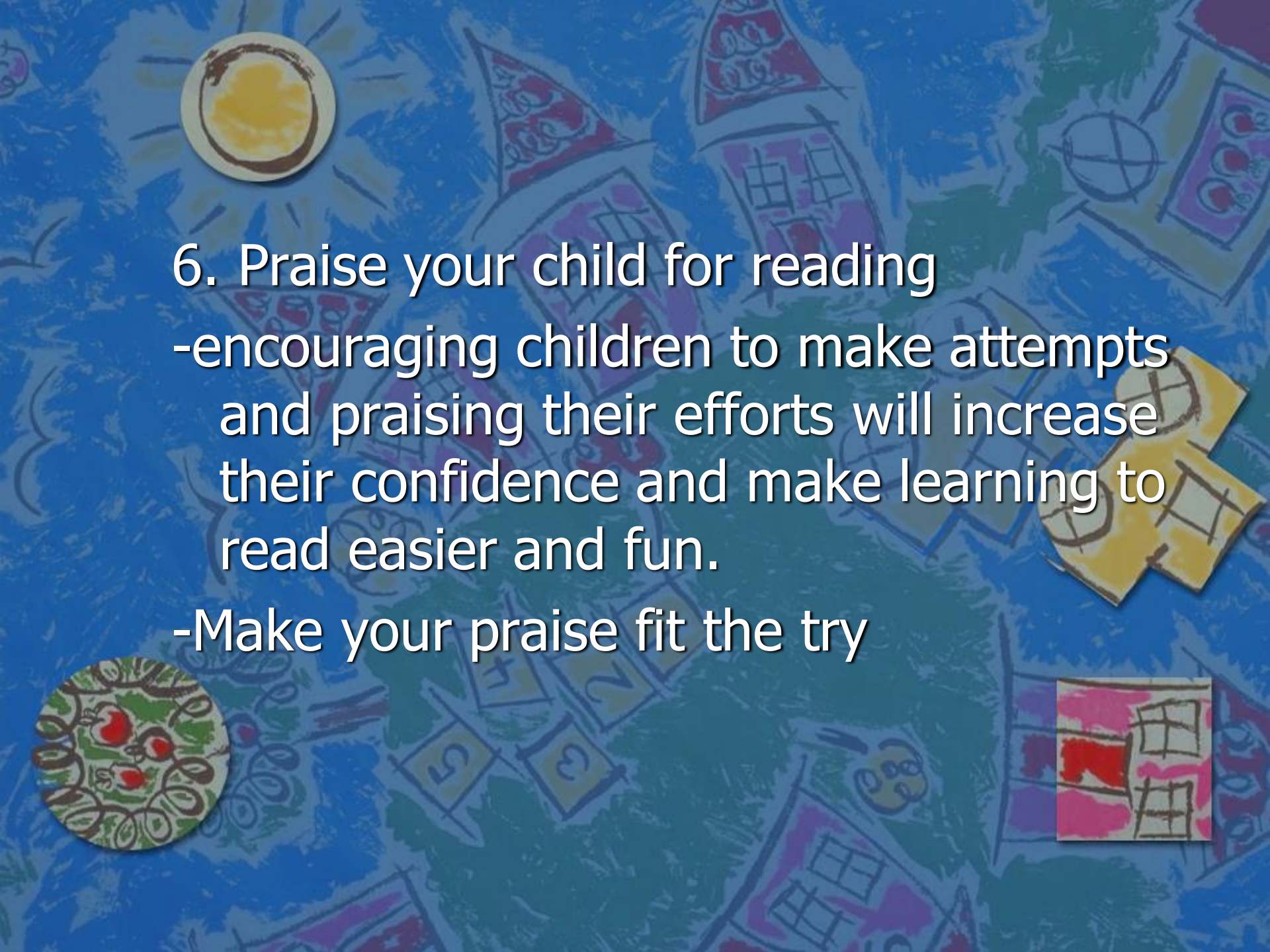
4. Take turns reading



5. Have realistic expectations as reading is hard work

- Give them time to work it out PAUSE
 - when the reader is stuck
 - If the meaning is lost
 - misses out a word
 - hesitates
 - after 10 seconds go to PROMPT (a prompt is a hint to 'have-a-go')
- Stretch the word
- Start sentence again
- What does it start with
- Look at the picture



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6. Praise your child for reading
- encouraging children to make attempts and praising their efforts will increase their confidence and make learning to read easier and fun.
 - Make your praise fit the try



7. Ask questions about what happened in the book

- talking with your child about a book or story helps them develop vocabulary
- develops language patterns
- shows the way language changes


Types of Questions

- Predict what might happen next and ask why?
- Talk about the character's actions and ask why?
- Compare books eg. characters, places, illustrations
- What part they liked best and why?
- Ask whether they liked the ending?




(Relate to the Comprehension Strategies)

8. Reading about the familiar helps children relate to what is being read to them.





9. Showing the relationship between writing and reading is another way to build reading skill.

- write own name
 - write notes to family (read the note back and point to the words as you read them)
 - copying favourite words
 - draw pictures about books or experiences (muscle development and ability to represent ideas)
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Examples

- Label things in the home
- While travelling look for and read familiar signs
- Talk to them about things they do
- Make plans for the day – later can write and search for familiar words
- Encourage your child to ask questions – show how some questions can be answered by looking for information in books.



- Talk about new words the child hears and connect to words they already know
- Look for letters of the alphabet
- Play "I spy"





General Tips

- You can make up your own stories
- Have a positive attitude towards books
- Let your child pick the book and turn the pages
- Read aloud to them
- Read over and over



Links between School and Home

- Home Reading: use of book mark, same language, purposes for reading eg. enjoyment or information
- GRR Phonics Program:
 - Phonemic Awareness (hearing sounds)
 - Phonemes (sounds)
 - Blending>say
 - Segmenting>write
- Camera and Flash words



Don't Worry about the Number

- Ignore the number, observe and take note of the the behaviours
- Ask Questions
- Complete a Retell



Vocabulary Development

■ Conversation...



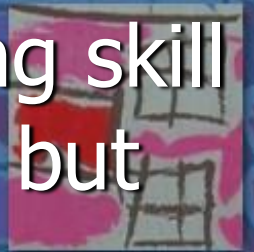


In Summary

- It's important to nurture your beginning reader and writer in a way that helps make reading a daily habit and a lifelong love.



Reading provides the foundation for a great education as well as a lifelong skill that brings not only knowledge, but pleasure.



Remember...

YOU ARE THEIR
FIRST TEACHER!

...but we are here to facilitate,
assist and refine that journey
even further

