

# A Guide to Reading With Your Child

## KEY TERMS:

**Comprehension:** Understanding what you read

**Fluency:** The way your reading sounds. To use fluency means that reading sounds smooth and that there is expression in the reader's voice.

**Decode:** Strategies, such as chunking and sounding out that help us read words accurately.

**Strategy:** A reading tool taught to students to help improve reading comprehension, accuracy, fluency and enjoyment.

**"Just Right" level or "Good Fit" book:** Each student reads at an individual reading level. When children read books that are "just right" they grow more quickly as they are engaging in real reading not reading that is too easy or a struggle.

1. The very most important thing you can do for your child is to read with them every night. Your child should be doing 90% of the reading, but listening to a parent read is a wonderful way for children to hear quality reading too.
2. Ask questions and discuss books with your child. Talk about characters, favorite parts, predictions or feelings.
3. Encourage your child to use **decoding strategies:**
  - Look for parts in the word they know like go in **going**
  - No matter what they can always make the first sounds of the word. Sometimes we just need help getting started.
  - Reread the sentence again
  - Stretch the word out carefully
  - Ask for help if these don't work

## REMEMBER:

- Your child is not too big to snuggle up with you and a good book. In fact, it could become a favorite memory.
- Read favorite books again and again!
- Keep calm, encourage, help when needed, don't get frustrated and enjoy reading for all that it can be!

