

HELPFUL TIPS ON LITERACY



1

Research has proven that phonics works for most struggling readers. Check with your school to see if they are using an evidence-based phonics program.

2

Foster a love of books and reading by reading aloud to our child or use paired reading techniques to encourage them to join in. Help your child to choose books that reflect their interests.

3

When you're reading together, draw attention to patterns in words, e.g., irregular spelling patterns – rough, tough enough; prefixes and suffixes; rules for plural or – ed word endings.

4

Look at the different aspects of words: What sounds are in it? What does it look like? What does it rhyme with? What do you do with it?

5

Play games like “I Spy”.

6

With other children, show how words relate to each other in word families (e.g., telephone, microphone, phonic, phoneme, phonology).

7

If your child has problems writing by hand, try using pencil grips or ergonomic pens. If you can, help them learn to touch type so they can prepare work on a computer.

8

Make sure your child's chair and table are at the correct height when they're doing homework. This is hugely important for handwriting and productivity.

9

Help them to use multisensory methods by engaging more than one sense at a time when learning something new; e.g., ask them to say letter names out loud when they're writing out a difficult word.

10

Avoid distracting stimuli, i.e., avoid being near windows, high traffic areas, the television or their mobile phone when they're doing homework.

11

If your child is squinting or constantly moving the page close to or away from their eyes, or losing their place as they try to read, arrange for an optometrist assessment.