

Getting ready for school



**“I like to read at
home!”**

Early Reading - let's get started!

Sharing Books with your child is one of the most useful things you can do, as it encourages your child to

- talk about and discuss things of interest.
- think about the story, the characters, & the words they hear
- enjoy stories, nursery rhymes and poems & re-tell stories they know
- learn that words and pictures carry a message
- begin to understand how books work (they have a cover, title, you read from left to right)
- listen to you for a period of time.
- recognise familiar words and letters

Remember.... it is important that:

- you sit somewhere comfortable - make this a "special time"
- your child can see the pages clearly as you point to the words
- you ask questions - what will happen next?
- you talk about the pictures and let your child tell you what they can see
- you encourage your child to join in - stories which are very repetitive are good, as children soon learn these phrases
- you are prepared to read the same story over and over again - children will soon correct you if you change it or miss bits out!!

Choose books that have

- stories, nursery rhymes, jokes, poems
- pictures that help your child to understand the words
- catchy rhymes or words that are repeated

You can also help your child by

- taking them to the local library regularly,
- listening to story tapes (you can record your own rather than buy!),
- making simple books together using paper/card (this is more personal as you have made the "book" together),
- finding / making simple props i.e. toy mouse for Hickory Dickory Dock, plastic animals for The Three Little Pigs etc.



Words and symbols are all around us - in our homes, shops, in the street, We take them for granted but to your child it all very new! By pointing these out to your child, will develop their awareness that signs / symbols carry meaning. You'll be amazed at what they see, remember and recall!

Providing your child with these rich, early learning experiences will give them a good basic knowledge and understanding of language, that we will then build on and develop here at St. Peter's.