**Tips for reading with your child checklist**

Before reading the book, look at the title of the book and discuss what they can see on the cover.

Let your child turn the pages themselves so they are in charge of their reading.

Ask your child to read the GPCs on the inside cover at the front of the book.

Ask them to read the words on the inside cover by sounding out and blending.

Ask your child to read the tricky words.

Ask them to find the tricky bit before they say the word.

Ask them to read the vocabulary words. Talk about the words and what they mean. It might help to show them pictures if they are unsure what the word represents.

Now ask your child to read the book. They should read most words fluently but can sound out and blend any unknown words. This could be in their head or out loud. Allow your child to point to the words themselves as they read them.

If your child has had to sound out the word, make sure they re-read the whole word before moving on. If they have had to sound out several words in a sentence, ask them to re-read the full sentence.

If they are struggling, say the sounds together so the child can orally blend. If they still can’t read the word, read it to them. Don’t encourage your child to guess or look at the pictures for clues. Previously this was used as a strategy for working out an unknown word, but as this doesn’t help the children to practise their phonic knowledge, it can no longer be used.

 If your child is able to read each page fluently, celebrate their success! Now they can focus on using prosody, reading the sentences with expression. Your child will have focused on this during one of their reading practice sessions in school.

At the end of the book, you can check your child’s understanding by asking the comprehension questions at the back. You could also ask about what has just happened in the story as they are reading. Only do this as far as the child is interested. We want reading at home to be a positive experience, not a test!

