



North Stratfield School Fairfield, Connecticut



"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

- Emilie Buchwald

Ways to support reading at home – Keep it relaxed and fun!

Routinely set aside a daily reading time together, starting off with 10 minutes and building up over time. Eventually the adult(s) and student can be reading their own reading materials so it becomes a family reading time. The reading material should be interesting to the student. Some students prefer non-fiction, magazine articles, and sports sections of the newspaper etc.

When students are reading, the book should be "*Just Right*" (discuss with classroom teacher or Mrs. Brinsmade). One rule of thumb...more than 2-3 unknown words on a page is not a "*Just Right Book*" (Independent level). It will be a "Just Right Book" later.

Reading the Words:

What do I do when my child comes to a tricky word?

WAIT...WAIT...WAIT

Give your child time to try a strategy.

If your child needs more support, try **one** of these:

- *What can you try?*
- *What are you thinking?*
- *Can the picture help?*
- *When I get stuck I get my mouth ready. Can you help me? Then go back and reread.*
- *What would make sense?*
- *Try rereading the sentence.*
- *Are there parts of the word that can help?*

**** "Sounding out" a word may seem natural to you (perhaps this is how you were taught).
However, it is the most difficult strategy and therefore is not on the list.

Reading for Meaning: Model these reading behaviors by:

- **Looking** at the book cover, title, and information on the back to make predictions before reading the story
- **Taking breaks and talking** about the story so far, confirming or readjusting your predictions (making it clear that there can be a change in thinking based on new information) / using details in the story to support your thinking
- **Discussing** the characters; interesting, surprising, or most important part of the story and explain your thinking
- **Rereading** confusing parts
- **Rereading** favorite stories, chapters, and parts of stories