

Kilcleagh N.S.

Tips for parents to aid development of Language/Literacy skills.

First & Second Class

Developing Oral Language

1. Listen to what your child is saying/trying to say and respond to contributions
2. Make and maintain eye contact while talking to your child
3. Explain the meaning of words
4. Develop your child's receptive language by asking him/her to follow simple instructions
5. Assist your child to express ideas in an orderly fluent way
6. Read to your child.
7. Encourage your child to express and justify opinions
8. Play language games which focus on words i.e. scrabble, crosswords
9. Listen carefully and clarify meaning 'Do you mean/or is it this what you mean?'
10. Encourage your child to listen courteously to the opinions of others
11. Talk about school topics and assignments .

Writing with your Child

1. Model writing yourself—shopping lists / letters / cards etc.
2. Provide a special place for your child to write / scribble provide a variety of materials—crayons, markers, pencils (box).
3. Display your child's name as often as possible i.e. Sean's Room.
4. Praise your child's efforts
5. Respond to the messages and not to grammar and spelling.
6. Praise your child's efforts—respond to the message and not spelling / handwriting, grammar.
7. Look for opportunities for purposeful writing activities at home—writing greeting cards, notes, telephone messages.
8. Encourage your child to use a word processor / computer.
9. Support your child's spelling attempts.
10. Encourage him/her to have a go at spelling difficult

Reading with your Child

1. Read to your child as often as you can.
2. Talk about books / characters / plots.
3. Enrol your child in the local library
4. Provide a good role model by reading yourself / other family members.
5. Vary the type of books read—stories / poems / information.
6. Accept your child's efforts with praise.
7. Encourage your child to read to younger brothers & sisters.
8. Enrol and encourage your child to visit the library one a week.
9. Encourage your child to guess unknown words.
10. Praise your child's efforts.