

# Reading Helpers Information Session

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026



**BOROONDARA PARK**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL CARE | LEARN | SHARE

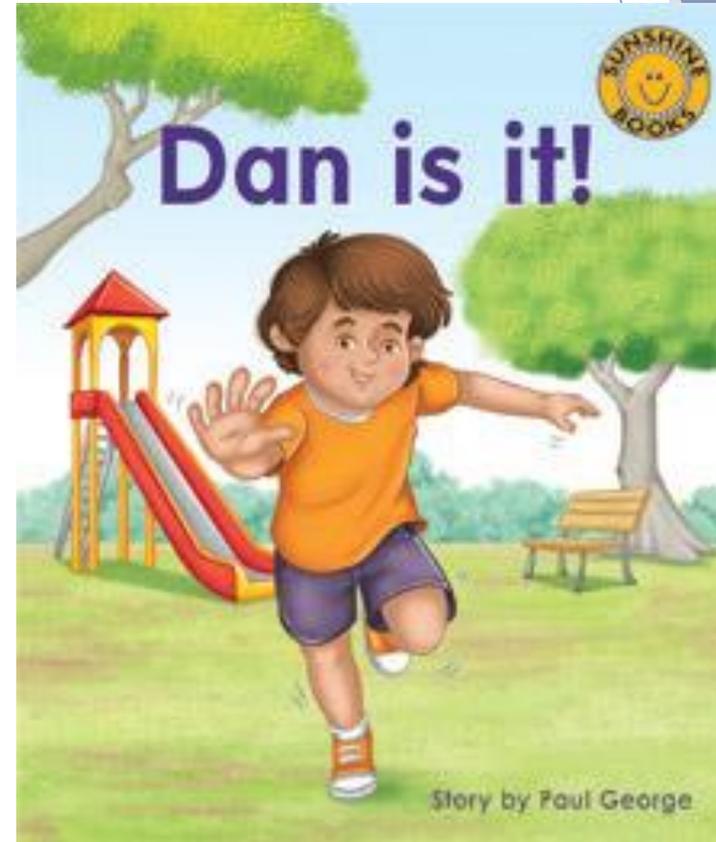
# Welcome & Purpose

- Reading is a partnership
- Small daily practice matters
- You don't need to be a teacher
- How you can help in the classroom



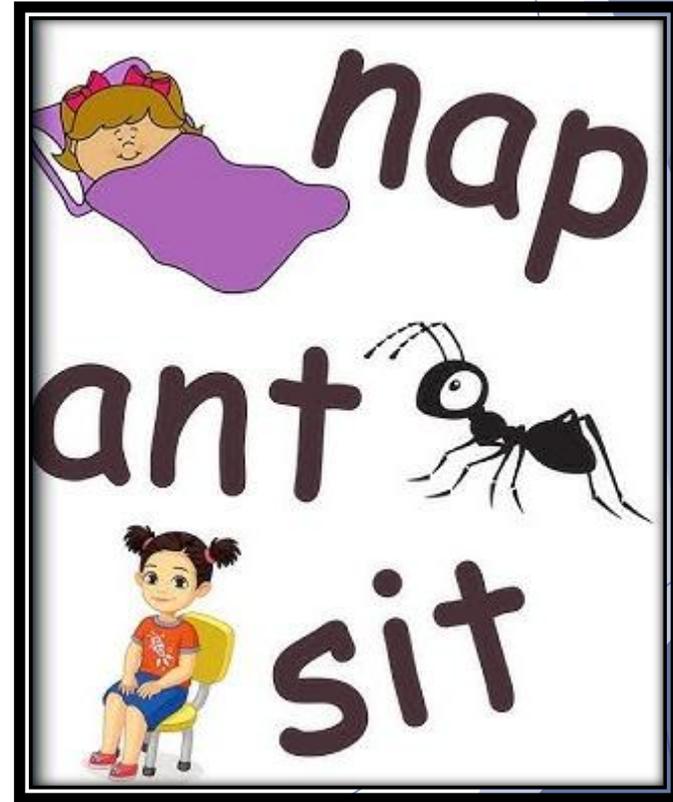
# How Children Learn to Read

- ▶ Phonological awareness
- ▶ Phonics
- ▶ Sight words
- ▶ Vocabulary
- ▶ Comprehension



# What reading looks like in the early years

- Learning letter sounds
- Blending and segmenting
- Recognising sight words
- Retelling stories



# How to Read With Your Child

- Before reading
- During reading
- After reading



# What If My Child Gets Stuck?

- Look at the picture
- Look at the first sound
- Blend the sounds
- Does it make sense?
- Most importantly - Keep it positive

<p><b>Reading Strategies for Early Readers</b></p> 	<p><b>Look at the Picture</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers use pictures as their first strategy.</i></p> <p>Pictures can help you in two ways...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- look at the pictures before you start reading to get an idea about what the story is about.</li> <li>- when stuck on a word, look at the picture to help predict what the word may be.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Does it Make sense?</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers make sure that what they read is logical and makes sense.</i></p> <p>After you predict using the picture, read the sentence/s. Ask yourself...<i>Does it make sense?</i></p> <p>If it doesn't make sense, try again-reread.</p>	<p><b>Does it Look Right?</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers make sure that what they have read is visually correct.</i></p> <p>When you read or predict a word, check through the entire word to see if it looks right. If it doesn't look right, try reading it again.</p> <p>Don't forget to ask yourself... <i>Does it look right?</i> <i>Does it make sense?</i></p>
<p><b>Does it Sound Right?</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers make sure that what they have read is structurally correct.</i></p> <p>Every time you read, ask yourself... <i>Does it make sense?</i> <i>Does it look right?</i> <i>Does it sound right?</i></p>	<p><b>Get Your Mouth Ready</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers use the beginning sound/s in an unknown word to better predict the correct word.</i></p> <p>Look at the beginning letter of a word and get the word started by getting your mouth ready to make the sound.</p> <p>Then you can predict a word that would make sense and begins with the same letter.</p>	<p><b>Reread</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers reread to predict unknown words by using information in the sentence.</i></p> <p>Sometimes when you work hard on a tricky word, you forget what the sentence was about. Rereading helps you to remember. Rereading also helps to check that what you have read looks and sounds right.</p>	<p><b>Chunks</b></p> <p><i>Effective readers look for known chunks when they get to a difficult word.</i></p> <p>When you come to a tricky word, you can look for chunks, or small parts of a word like 'at' in 'that'. You can also use a similar word that you know such as 'bike' and 'like'.</p> <p>After figuring out a tricky word, reread to check for meaning.</p>

## Reading Strategies for Early Readers



### Look at the Picture

*Effective readers use pictures as their first strategy.*

Pictures can help you in two ways...

- look at the pictures before you start reading to get an idea about what the story is about.
- when stuck on a word, look at the picture to help predict what the word may be.

### Does it Make sense?

*Effective readers make sure that what they read is logical and makes sense.*

After you predict using the picture, read the sentence/s.  
Ask yourself...*Does it make sense?*  
If it doesn't make sense, try again-reread.

### Does it Look Right?

*Effective readers make sure that what they have read is visually correct.*

When you read or predict a word, check through the entire word to see if it looks right. If it doesn't look right, try reading it again.  
  
Don't forget to ask yourself...  
*Does it look right?*  
*Does it make sense?*

### Does it Sound Right?

*Effective readers make sure that what they have read is structurally correct.*

Every time you read, ask yourself...  
*Does it make sense?*  
*Does it look right?*  
*Does it sound right?*

### Get Your Mouth Ready

*Effective readers use the beginning sound/s in an unknown word to better predict the correct word.*

Look at the beginning letter of a word and get the word started by getting your mouth ready to make the sound.

Then you can predict a word that would make sense and begins with the same letter.

### Reread

*Effective readers reread to predict unknown words by using information in the sentence.*

Sometimes when you work hard on a tricky word, you forget what the sentence was about.  
Rereading helps you to remember.  
Rereading also helps to check that what you have read looks and sounds right.

### Chunks

*Effective readers look for known chunks when they get to a difficult word.*

When you come to a tricky word, you can look for chunks, or small parts of a word like 'at in 'that'. You can also use a similar word that you know such as 'bike' and 'like'.  
After figuring out a tricky word, reread to check for meaning.

# Making Reading Part of Daily Life

- Read signs
- Bedtime stories
- Rhyming games
- Model reading



# What Not To Do

- Don't turn it into a test
- Avoid over-correcting
- Keep sessions short
- No comparisons



# How You Can Help the Most

- Read daily
- Stay positive
- Celebrate effort
- Keep in touch



# Helping at BPPS

- It's exactly the same when supporting students at school as a parent reading helper.
- Start with asking what the story might be about – making predictions!
- Support each child as they read the text. Listen and focus on what they are reading.
- Confidentiality
- Volunteers are required to have a WWCC (Working With Children's Check) and complete the BPPS Volunteers Induction

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# Any questions?

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