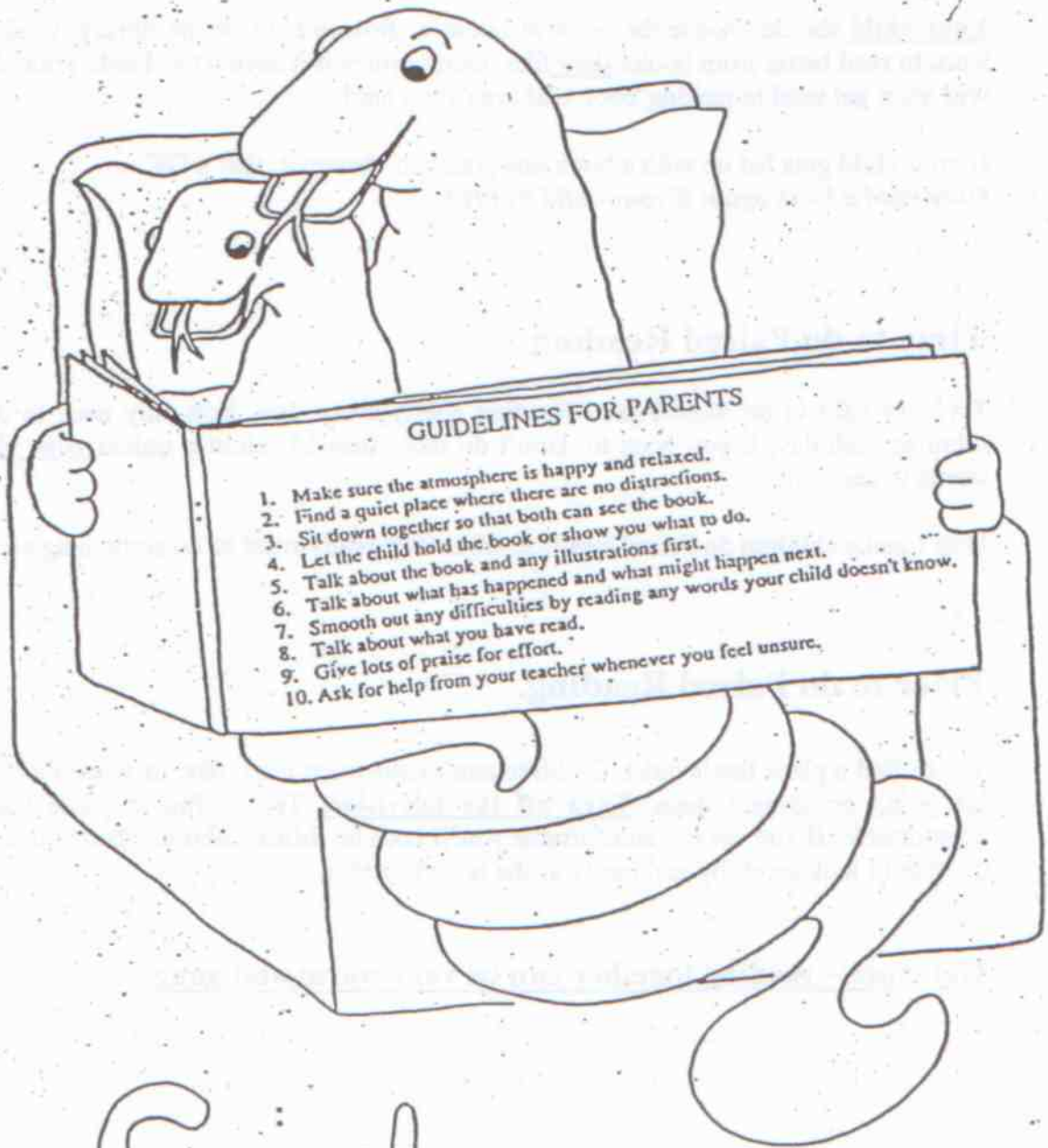


# PAIRED READING

## HOW TO DO IT



### GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

1. Make sure the atmosphere is happy and relaxed.
2. Find a quiet place where there are no distractions.
3. Sit down together so that both can see the book.
4. Let the child hold the book or show you what to do.
5. Talk about the book and any illustrations first.
6. Talk about what has happened and what might happen next.
7. Smooth out any difficulties by reading any words your child doesn't know.
8. Talk about what you have read.
9. Give lots of praise for effort.
10. Ask for help from your teacher whenever you feel unsure.

Curl up  
with a book

Paired Reading is a very good way for parents to help their children's reading. It works well with most children and their reading improves. Also Paired Reading fits in very well with the teaching at school, so children don't get mixed up. Most children really like it – it helps them want to read.

## WHAT YOU NEED

### Books to choose from.

Your child should choose the book at home or from school or the library. Children learn to read better from books they like. Don't worry if it seems too hard. Your child will soon get used to picking book that aren't too hard.

If your child gets fed up with a book and wants to change it, that's OK.  
*Only read a book again if your child wants to.*

### Time to do Paired Reading.

Try very hard to do some Paired Reading nearly every day. You only need to do 5 minutes each day, if you want to. Don't do more than 15 minutes unless your child wants to carry on.

Don't make children do Paired Reading when they really want to do something else.

### Place to do Paired Reading.

Try to find a place that's quiet. Children can't read when it's noisy, or when there is a lot going on around them. Turn off the television. Try to find a place that is comfortable. If you are not comfortable you'll both be shifting about. Then you won't be able to look carefully and easily at the book together.

Get close ~ reading together can be very warm and snug.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD THROUGH STORY

## Language Activities and Stories

### Children should engage in a variety of responses such as:

asking questions

answering questions

repeating appropriate lines of dialogue

using tone of voice to highlight moods and particular events

re-creating characters, events and emotions in role playing

miming stories and parts of stories

describing different characters

predicting story endings

re-telling the story

re-telling particular incidents in the story

recalling different words and phrases

recalling lines of dialogue

discussing why characters said certain things

acting out incidents in the story

miming the story

giving personal opinions relating to the story

reflecting and talking about personal experiences

recognising and recreating sounds in the story

playing with language to develop an awareness of sounds:

(i) rhyming words – cat, fat, mat

(ii) alliteration – big blue bouncy ball

clapping syllabic rhythms in words and sentences

using pictures to identify unknown words in sentences

using context and knowledge of word order to identify unknown words in sentences

## PAIRED READING

Here are a few questions, which you may find helpful depending on the content of the book:

- What is the title of the book?
- Who is the author/illustrator?
- What do you think of the front cover?
- Tell me about the picture
- What was your favourite part of the story?
- Was there any part of the story that you did not like?
- How might you change the story/pictures if you were the author/illustrator?
- What would you do/How would you feel if you were.....(a certain character)?

The main focus of paired reading is to instil a love of reading and to provide children with an opportunity to talk about their reading material so don't be afraid to let the child guide the discussion at times.

*Happy reading!*



## 10 Good Reasons to Read to your Child

1. Reading to your child gives him/her the most valuable gift of all - your time.
2. You are nurturing a lifelong love of reading.
3. Reading to your child calms him/her at the end of the day.
4. You will enjoy the experience yourself.
5. Reading to your child will give him/her a head start at school.
6. You are sharing wonderful moments with them.
7. They will develop an appreciation for good art.
8. Your children are learning- about the world, social skills, moral values and respect.
9. You are creating precious nostalgic moments for them to treasure.
10. They will love you for it

Happy Reading

