

How long and how often should your child read?

Grade 1 Home Language		Total per week
Shared Reading	15 minutes per day for 3 days	45 minutes
Group Reading	30 minutes per day (2 groups each for 15 minutes) for 5 days	2 hours 30 minutes

Grade 2 Home Language		Total per week
Shared Reading	20 minutes per day for 3 days	1 hour
Group Reading	30 minutes per day (2 groups each for 15 minutes) for 5 days	2 hours 30 minutes

Grade 3 Home Language		Total per week
Shared Reading	20 minutes per day for 3 days	1 hour
Group Reading	30 minutes per day (2 groups each for 15 minutes) for 5 days	2 hours 30 minutes

How Do I Help My Child



Practice Reading Skills At Home?

1

Choose a book at a suitable level. Take a look at the Twinkl Original book list to help you find suggested books.

<https://www.twinkl.co.za/resources/twinkl-originals>

2

Talk about the book. Take a look at the cover and the title. Try make predictions about what the book is about. Help them to make connections with the topic/cover and their own life experiences. This should only take 2-3 min.



3

Picture Talk or Browsing. With very young children briefly talk about the illustrations of the book and raise questions about what might be happening at this point in the text.

With older children teach them to browse through the text paying attention to captions, chapter headings, table of contents sub-headings or illustrations within the text. This should last for 2 - 3 minutes.

4

Reading.

Before reading remind your child about the different functions of punctuation.

Comma – have a quick breath.

Full stop – Stop. Take a breath and continue.

Exclamation mark – sound surprised or shocked.

Question mark – you need to sound like you are asking a question

Children read the text aloud on their own.

Listen to them reading. When they get stuck on a word or make a mistake assist them by asking them the following

- Does that make sense to you? Praise them if they correct the error e.g. "Well done! You corrected yourself. That makes sense."
- Does that sound right in this sentence?
- Let's breakdown the sounds that make up the word?
- Look at the picture for clues.
- It could have been that word but lets look at the first letter of the words again.

5

Discussion.

Spend some time going over the plot and characters in the story. Allow your child to ask questions and ask them some questions about what they have read as well.

Your discussion could also include questions on phonics, comprehension or on an aspect of grammar.

These are some good questions to ask:

- Who was the main character of the story?
- What happened first? (event) or (event)
- How do you think _____ felt when _____ happened?
- What would you do if _____ happened to you?
- Can you find a word that starts with (add a letter)?
- Can you find a word that rhymes with _____?
- Can you find a verb/adjective/adverb?
- Put your finger on a comma/full stop/question mark/exclamation mark

