**Fun ideas to encourage good reading habits**

* **Snuggle up** and read with your child every day. Have a special place to keep your books.
* **Talk about it:** Before you start reading a book, talk about the title, the pictures on the cover (front and back). Look through the pictures together and ask your child what they think the story might be about.
* Let your child act out the story.
* Show your child how much you love reading and use expression and humour when reading to them.
* Buy **dual-language books** if English isn’t your family’s first language - you can talk about books and stories, and develop a love for them, in any language.
* **Ask Questions:** As you read and when you’ve finished, sometimes ask questions about the story. '*What was your favourite bit? What do you think about that? What would you do?'*
* **Retell stories:** Sometimes after you have shared a story, ask your child to retell it to you. Help by asking 'What happened first? What next? And then what?' Can you remember what happens at the end?

**Develop early sound awareness skills**

* If you talk about letters and sounds, you child will begin to notice them.
* Find an interesting word, talk about what it means and clap out the **syllables** e.g. ‘el-e-phant’
* Recognise some **letter sounds**, e.g. Play I Spy, ‘I spy a ‘b’ sound’.
* Find rhyming words

