Learning to Read is Everyone's Business

- Here are some hints to use when reading a fiction book with your child.
- Comprehension in reading is about being able to understand the text, respond to the text, and use the information from the text and personal experiences to make sense of what is being read.
- You can model these behaviours by saying them aloud as you consider them and then help your child to develop the skills themselves.

Before Reading
- Study the cover and title
- Skim the pictures and chapter headings if there are any
- Make connections to what you already know. Ask yourself: What does this remind me of?
- Make predictions. Ask yourself: What might happen in this story?

During Reading
- Stop and check. Does this make sense? Do I understand what I have read?
- Re-read parts that are confusing you.
- Try to figure out unfamiliar words. Use the pictures/titles/headings/small words inside the bigger word.
- Revise your predictions as you read new information.
- Make mental pictures of the characters, setting and events.
- Make connections with what you already know.

After Reading
- Think about your predictions. Were you right? Did something happen that you didn't predict?
- Decide what the important message/s are.
- Summarise the ideas. Did you predict them or was there a surprise?
- Re-read and look for details to support your predictions.
- Ask yourself – “What did I learn?” “What did I like or dislike about the story?”
- Use the text to support your opinions.