

School Comprehension Parent Information Note

In order for children to be able to understand what they are reading, they must have the following skills:

- know sight words quickly and automatically, without sounding them out (fluent decoding skills)
- know lots of different words and what they mean (word knowledge/vocabulary)

What Can You Do At Home To Improve Your Child's Comprehension

- Read the same narrative story book many times, so they are able to start repeating the words
- Point to and discuss the words they can say, showing what they look like in the book
- Help your child find letters and words on the page in the book
- Ask questions about the story while reading
- Speak directly to your child, having lots of conversation and asking questions that require your child to answer
- Help your child learn the letters in their name, so they can find the letters in books
- Use flashcards to practice learning letters and words. The idea is to get faster at recognising them (use a timer)
- Use the five finger rule to select a suitable book for practicing reading

