

# Nursery Early Reading Quick Start Meeting

Developing Early Reading Skills in Nursery



# Why Early Reading Matters



- ▶ Builds vocabulary, language and comprehension
- ▶ Supports listening and attention
- ▶ Develops phonological awareness
- ▶ Creates a strong foundation for systematic phonics in Reception
- ▶ Encourages confidence and enjoyment in reading.



# What Reading Looks Like in Nursery

Children may:

- ▶ Choose books independently
- ▶ Recognise familiar characters and repeated language
- ▶ Join in with refrains
- ▶ Retell stories in their own words
- ▶ Begin to notice letters and print
- ▶ Show early sound awareness encouraged by Little Wandle Foundations



# Little Wandle

Little Wandle Foundations focuses on:

- ▶ Developing language
- ▶ Strengthening vocabulary
- ▶ Building foundations in phonological awareness
- ▶ Preparing children for phonics in Reception
- ▶ Providing **short, structured daily sessions** led by trained adults



# Reading sessions in Nursery

- ▶ Daily story sharing
- ▶ Daily Rhyme Time sessions
- ▶ Drop Everything and Read sessions
- ▶ Weekly visits to the school library
- ▶ Monthly magazine subscription
- ▶ High-quality, repeated reads of core texts - Whole Class Reading sessions
- ▶ Explicit modelling of language (“I wonder...”, “Let’s describe...”)
- ▶ Opportunities for children to:
  - ▶ join in with phrases
  - ▶ Predict
  - ▶ Retell



# Foundations of Phonics - Little Wandle

We focus on **sound awareness**, not letters.

Activities include:

- ▶ Environmental listening (What can you hear?)
- ▶ Body percussion
- ▶ **Clapping syllables** (spi-der, el-e-phant)
- ▶ Sound discrimination games
- ▶ **Alliteration games** (“Silly Simon sips soup”)
- ▶ **Oral blending** (“Put on your c-oa-t”)
- ▶ **Oral segmenting** (“What sounds are in cat?”—spoken, not letters)



# Reading At Home

- ▶ Read every day, even briefly
- ▶ Let your child choose the book
- ▶ Talk about the pictures before reading
- ▶ Pause to discuss characters and feelings
- ▶ Repeat favourite stories
- ▶ Use fun voices and actions
- ▶ Encourage predictions (“What do you think will happen?”)
- ▶ Visit the library
- ▶ Make books available in baskets or shelves at child height
- ▶ Share stories in any language spoken at home
- ▶ Let children “read” to you by retelling from memory





# Recommended Reads

- ▶ Our school website has lots of information about developing the love of reading.
  - ▶ Booklets to support developing reading skills
  - ▶ Information relating to the teaching of Reading in schools.
  - ▶ Recommended reading lists

