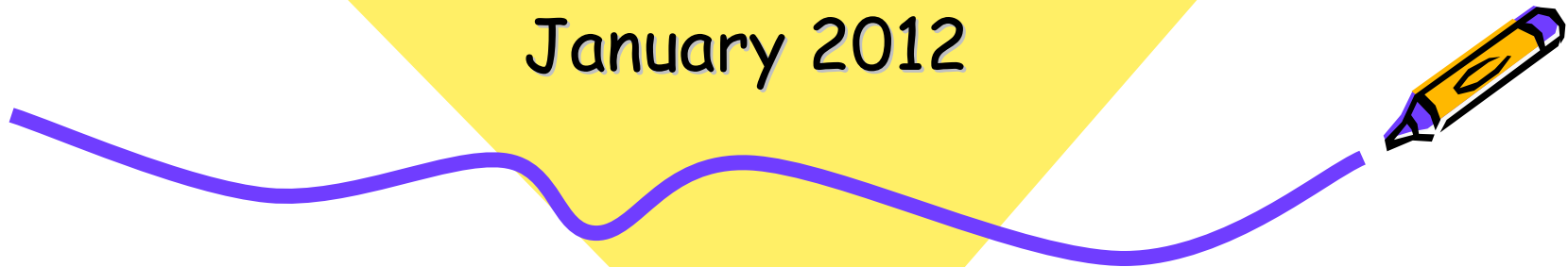


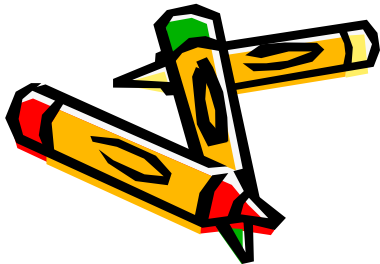
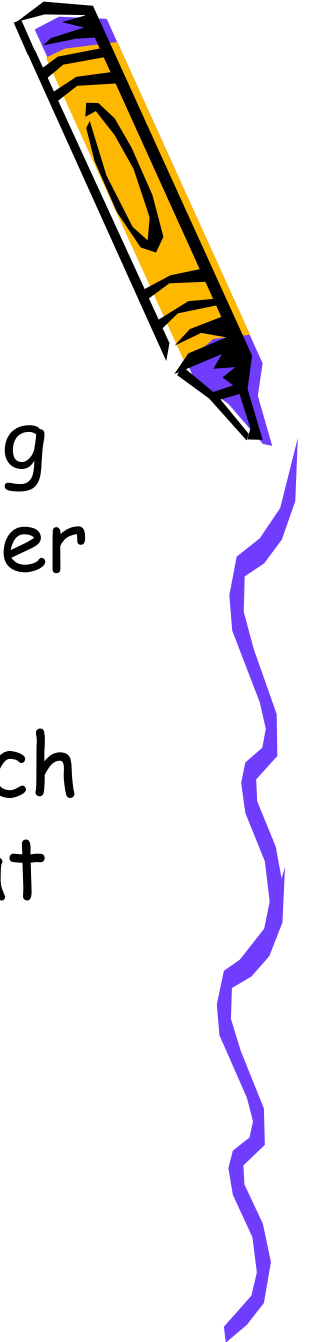
How to help your child to learn to read

Summerseat Methodist Primary School
January 2012



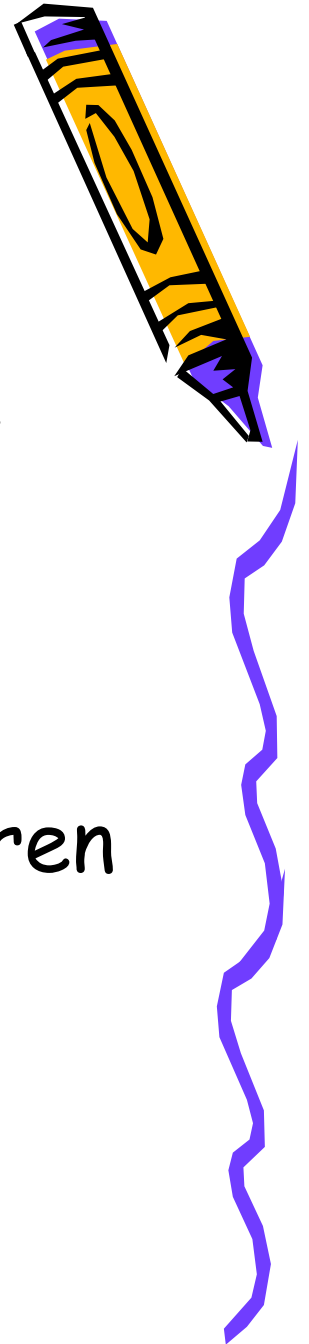
Reading

- Reading is all about getting meaning and enjoyment from text - whatever that text may be !
- Reading is a very complex skill which uses a number of different skills at the same time.



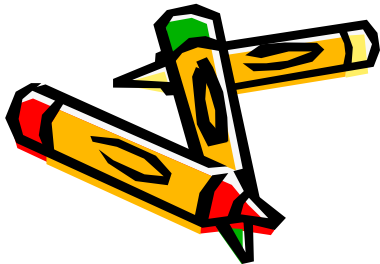
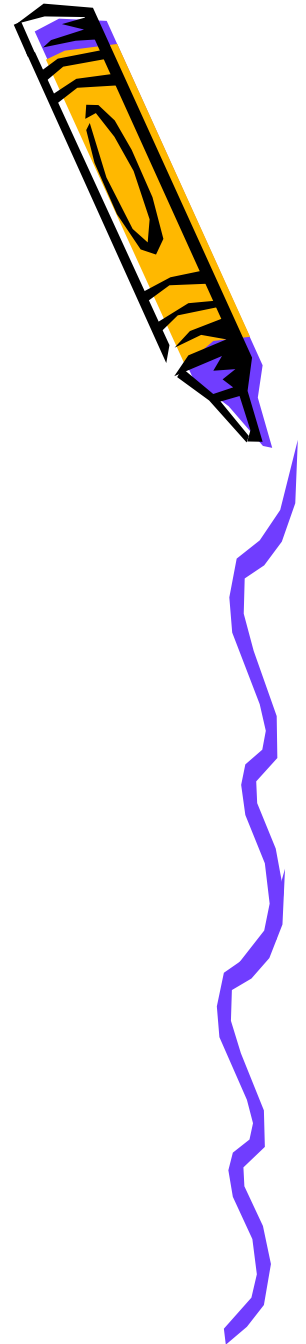
Learning to read

- Children learn to read in different ways and at different speeds.
- You should be careful comparing children.
- As with any area of learning, children need to feel comfortable and challenged. It is a fine balance !



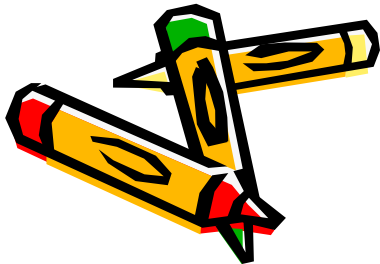
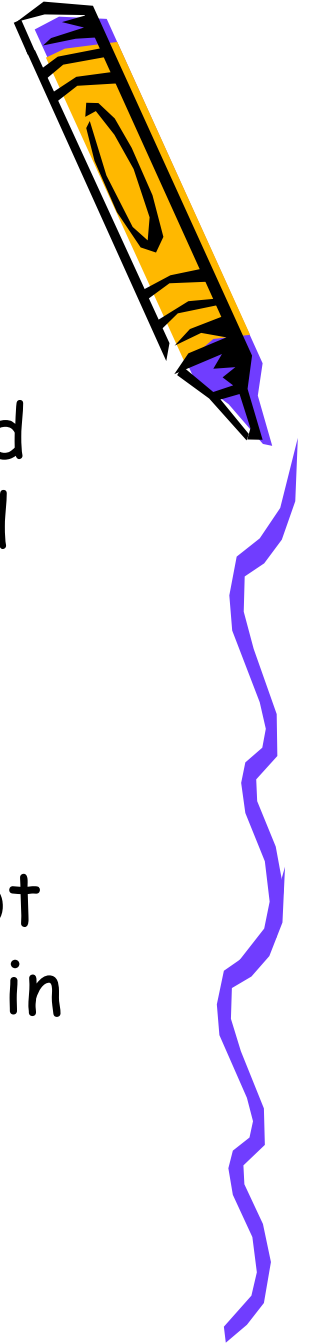
What do we do when we read ?

- We generally use four different strategies when we read.
- Can you think what they are ?
- Phonics - sound and spelling
- Word recognition
- Grammatical knowledge
- Knowledge of context



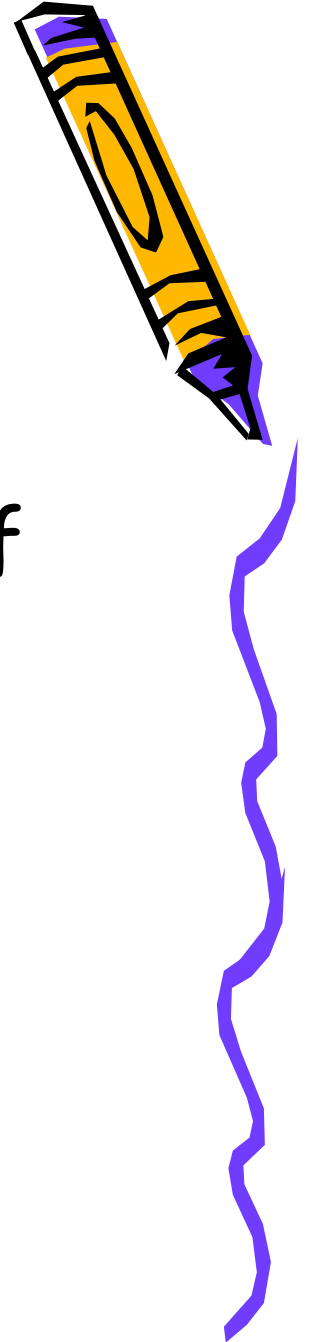
Learning all four skills

- It is important as children learn to read that they learn to use all four skills and don't become too dependent on one of them.
- Some children naturally seem to lean towards one skill - the others should not be overlooked - they are valuable later in their reading experience.



How do children learn to read in school ?

- During an average school day, your child will be involved in a variety of reading experiences.
- These will include:

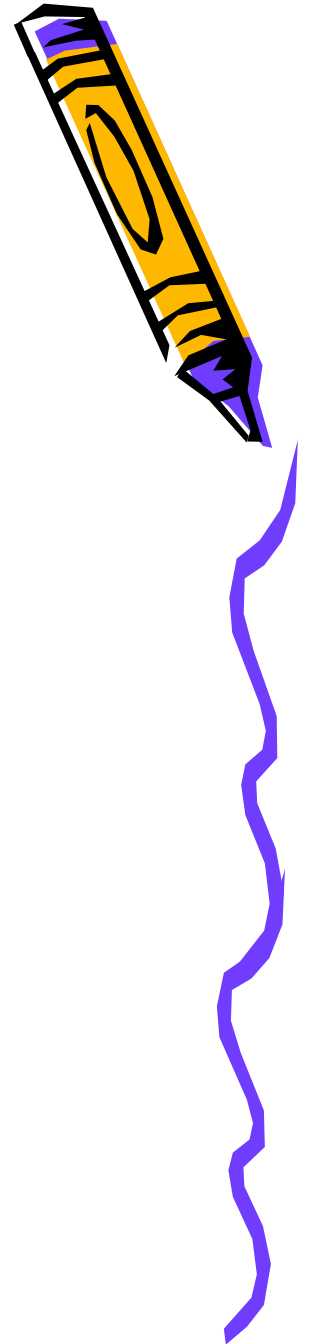


Listening to
adults
reading to
them

Reading a
book as a
whole class or
small group

Daily 15
minute
phonics
session

Reading by
themselves
in the book
corner

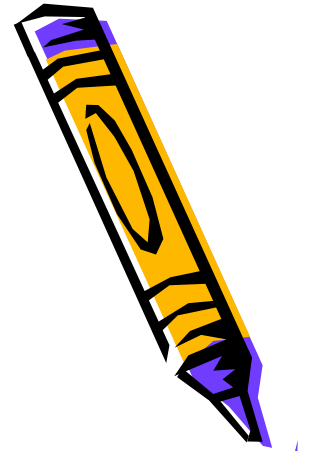


Reading one-
to-one with
an adult

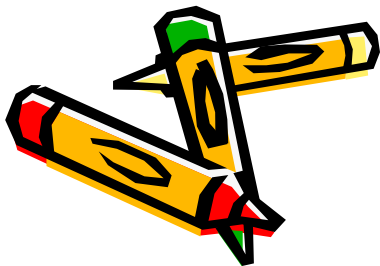
Listening to
stories on
tape / CD-
ROM

Reading to
find out
information

Playing
"Phonics"
games

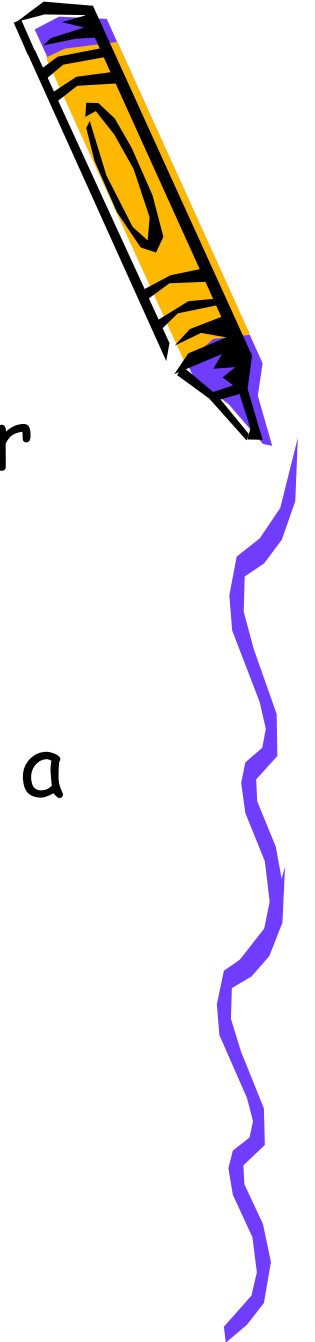


- If you remember that reading is getting meaning and enjoyment from text you will realise that children are doing it all the time.
- Understanding what is happening in a picture is part of the reading process - it is getting meaning and enjoyment.



Home Reading

- From the early days at school, your child will have brought home a reading book.
- This might well have started off as a book with no words - but it is still reading - it is taking meaning and enjoyment from the pictures.



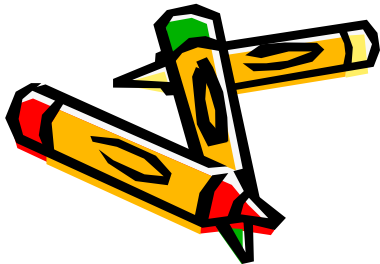
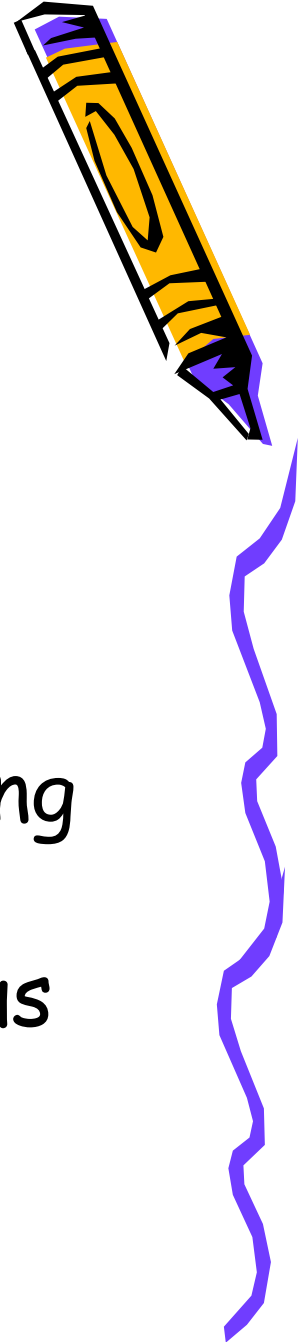
Reading Scheme

- Our home reading books are sorted into colour coded bands.
- Each band has a variety of books in it. They vary in style and difficulty.

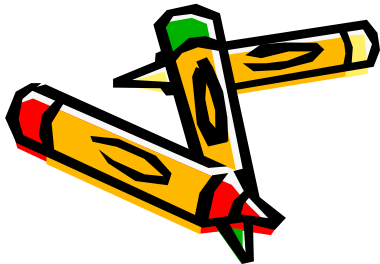
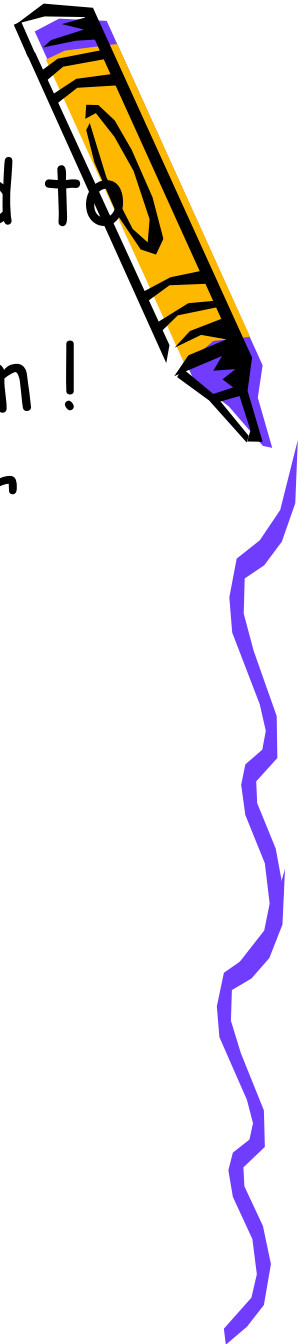


What do I do when my child brings their book home ?

- The most important thing to remember is that we want the children to enjoy reading.
- We want them to grow up into young people / adults who enjoy books.
- Enjoyment has to be the main focus of home reading.

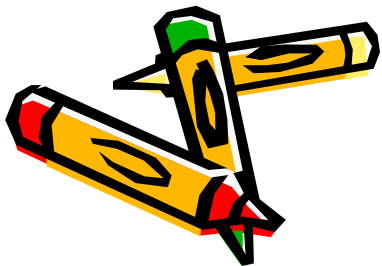
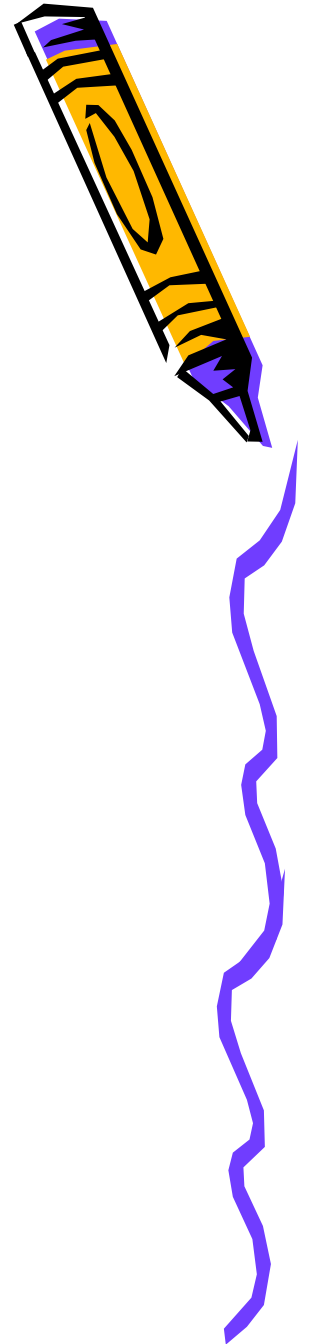


- There may be times when you need to abandon a reading session if your child is not enjoying it - no problem !
- However, if this becomes a regular occurrence, speak to your child's class teacher who will be able to offer further advice.
- Try to find a special time and a special place to enjoy reading together.



What do we do ?

- A step by step guide ...



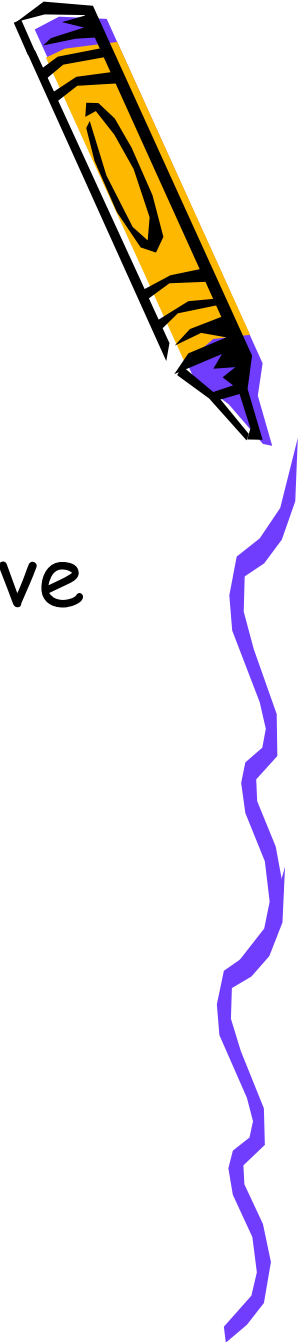
What should we do when the books get longer ?

- Remember that your child still needs to enjoy what they read.
- The emphasis of how you "read" with your child changes as they become more independent.
- It is still important to spend time sharing their books with them.

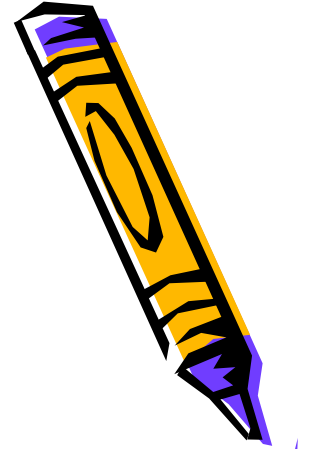


Book Talk

- The emphasis changes to talking about what your child is reading.
- Each story your child reads will have characters, a setting and a plot.
- As your child makes their way through the book, chat with them about those three aspects.

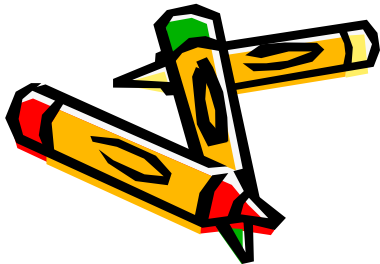
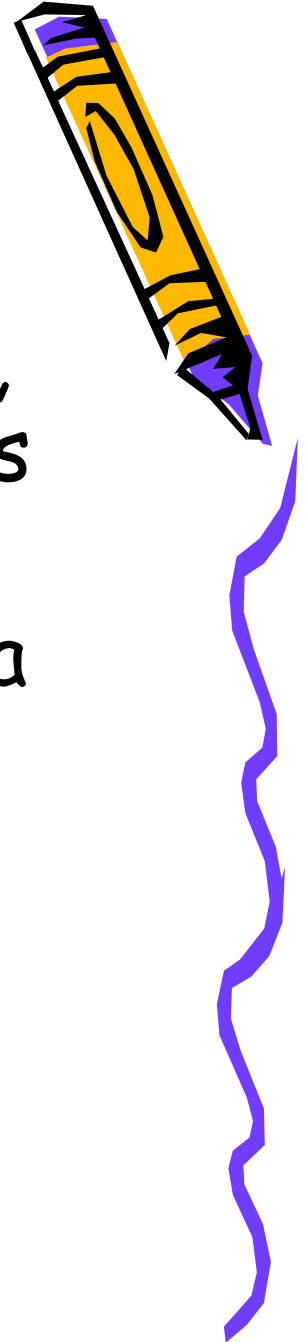


- Once your child has read the first few paragraphs or chapters, ask them to predict what will happen next.
- Discuss with them how the story makes them feel.
- Which characters do they like ?
- Why do they like certain words that the author has chosen ?



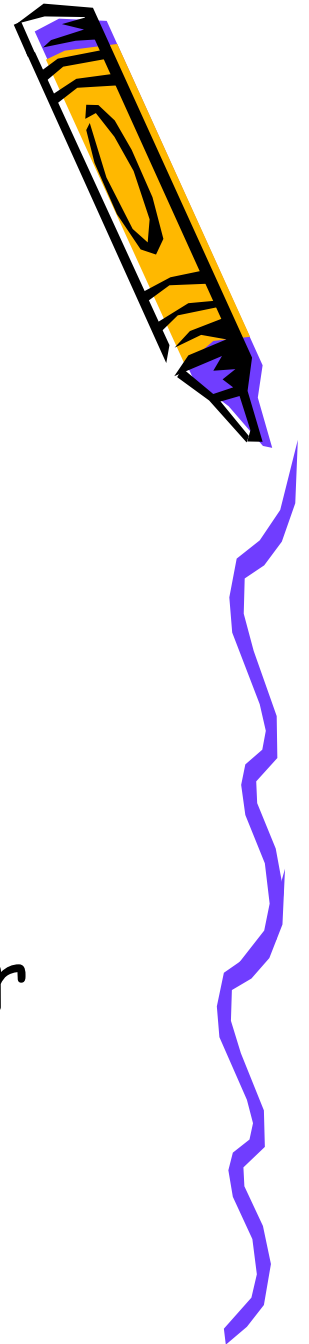
Understanding ...

- As texts become more challenging, the vocabulary your child discovers will become wider.
- You have a very important role as a "walking dictionary" !
- As you are reading together, ask probing questions about the words they read.



In summary ...

- Reading is all to do with taking meaning and pleasure from texts.
- It is not a race to get to the next book or level.
- Use a range of strategies.
- Talk about books and stories.
- Enjoy the time you spend with your child.



Any questions ?

