Ten top tips for reading stories to your child

1 Make reading to your child feel like a treat.
Introduce each new book with excitement.

2 Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so both of you can see the book.

3 Show curiosity in what you're going to read:

Oh no! I think Arthur is going to get even angrier now.

4 Read the whole story the first time through without stopping too much. If you think your child might not understand something, model an explanation:

Oh I think what's happening here is that...

5 Chat about the story:

I wonder why he did that?

Oh no, I hope she's not going to...

I wouldn't have done that, would you?

6 Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.

7 Link stories to your own experiences (e.g. *This reminds me of...*)

8 Read favourite stories over and over again.
Get your child to join in with the bits they know.

9 Read with enthusiasm. Don't be embarrassed to try out different voices. Your child will love it.

10 Read with enjoyment.
If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.

