Fun ideas to encourage good reading habits

Early Years

- Snuggle up and read with your child every day. Have a special place to keep your books.
- Take your child to the library, let them choose exciting books with flaps, different textures, colourful pictures and sounds, and get them a library card.
- Let your child act out the story. They might be moving but they are still listening!
- Talk about interesting words and what is happening in the book.
- Talk about reading from left to right and show your child, by using your finger, how to trace the words.
- Show your child how much you love reading and use expression and humour when reading to them.
- Say rhymes and sing songs together and let your child fill in the rhyming words at the end of the sentence.
- Make mistakes in familiar songs and rhymes... and get caught!
- Take time to listen to your child’s ideas and opinions - they have lots of them!
- Point out, and talk about, the words all around you, for example the name of the shop you are in, labels on food, familiar street names.
- Give your child their own short shopping list with words and pictures.
- Make your own picture books.
- Play I Spy (use the letter sounds).