

**Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.**

## Encouraging reading at home

Roald Dahl Day is celebrated each year on 12<sup>th</sup> September (his birthday). Stories can be very powerful and take you on magical journeys to places you have never seen or imagined before.

As early years practitioners you have the fantastic privilege of being able to share a passion and excitement for reading with parents, inspiring them to support their children to develop a love of books and giving them the skills they will need for later reading and writing.



**Here are some top tips for inspiring parents at your setting.**

1. Encourage parents to read in front of their children. Letters at home, food menus in a restaurant, road signs, instructions. Children will start to see how being able to read is useful in all of these real-life situations
2. Provide parents with details of their local library and encourage them to visit and join
3. Loan books to parents from the setting
4. Create story sacks to send home containing a book, props and ideas for how to use them with their child
5. Share the effective storytelling prompts from this week's storytelling workshop activity
6. Encourage parents to create a reading space or reading time at home. For example, a cosy corner with cushions and books or a regular bedtime story
7. Encourage parents to follow their children's interests to engage them in reading. If their child likes football, animals or cars they will enjoy books about these
8. As well as reading with children, encourage parents to talk to their children about what they have read:
  - a. Who is their favourite character and why?
  - b. Do the characters remind them of anyone they know?
  - c. Showing they are interested will encourage children to want to share more books.
9. If parents do not feel confident with reading, then encourage them to make up their own stories using their imagination, or re-tell familiar events or experiences – these often make the best stories.

## NDNA products to support you with this activity

- Factsheet: [Parents' Guide to Home Learning](#)
- Publication: [Your Essential Guide to Supporting the Home Learning Environment](#)



Tip

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**Find more resources at [www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna](http://www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna)**