

Reading a ditty at home

What you will need:

- One ditty - four ditties have been printed on a page, please cut them up into individual ditties so that your child is not distracted by other things on the sheet. Please aim to read two ditties a day.
- Something to point with e.g. a lolly stick. If you do not have this, don't worry you and your child can point with their finger.

Each ditty is set out in the same way.

Speed sounds

Speed Sounds - read the sounds (not the letter name)

a g t p n s d o i

- Ask your child to read and say the sounds as you point to them.
- Go forwards, backwards and jump around to ensure they can confidently read each one.

Green words

Green Words - read these words by blending the sounds together

not got sip pop dad did dog

- These are words in the ditty that can be 'Fred-talked' or sounded out. Your child can do this out loud or in their head when they become more confident. The sounds are blended together to say the word.
- Ask your child to read each word 'Fred talking' and blending if necessary.
- If they use Fred-talk, re-read the word a few times until they can read it confidently without sounding out.

Red words

Red Words - read these words but tell your child the word if they get stuck

I the

- These are the red words they will find in this ditty.
- Red words cannot be sounded out and children will need to 'just know them'.
- If they do not know a word, read it for them and practise reading and saying it in different ways, in a whisper, singing, loud voice etc until they can read each word confidently and fluently.

The ditty

I got pop

dad got a sip

the dog did not



- Please **do not** read the ditty to your child, they must read it **independently**.
- Ask your child to point under each word as they read.
- It is ok for them to Fred-talk words the first few times but the aim is for them to read it fluently without any sounding out.
- If they need to Fred talk a word; encourage them to re-read the line again e.g. 'I g-o-t pop'. Encourage them to re-read without any sounding out.
- If they get stuck it is fine to go back and look at the green and red words again.
- Ask your child to re-read the ditty over and over until they can read it **fluently without any sounding out**. It is very important that they can do this.

Jumping in

- Read the ditty to your child asking them to point to the words as you read it. Read slowly and check that they are tracking the words as you read.
- Read each line to your child pausing at a word. Ask your child to jump in and read the missing word for you. You can take it in turns to do this!

Questions

Once your child can read the ditty fluently check their understanding by asking a few questions. eg Who got a sip of the pop? What about the dog? If they cannot answer, read the ditty again and answer together.