

Sunnybrae School

English Newsletter 2018

Oral Language

- Oral language is the most powerful tool that we use to communicate.
- One of the best things you can do for your child is talk to them everywhere, every day and any time.
- Remember, talk is a thinking tool - it helps your child solve problems and develop their imagination.
- Your child will get less frustrated if they are able to express their emotions, questions or opinions through oral language.
- Encourage your child to speak in their home language.
- As your child learns to talk to you about their learning, their ability to think will be developed further.
- Children who are articulate usually form friendships more easily.

Ref p199 - The Essential Oral Language Toolkit

Some things to talk about...

In the car

Things you can see e.g. people, shops, parks, buildings. Where you will be going and who you will see.



At the shops

Items you are buying, labels, jobs that people do..



At home

Chatting about the day's events over a family meal, family photos or memories, traditional ways of doing things in your culture.



In the garden

How the weather and the seasons affect the garden. Gardening equipment and how things work e.g. the lawnmower.



Handy Hints to Develop a Love of Reading

Children read more when they have:

- A wide variety of books, comics and magazines around them that they can enjoy.
- A place to read.
- Time to read. Build reading into your routine - before school, after school and at bedtime.
- Get books from the school library and get LOTS from your public library too!

Reading aloud

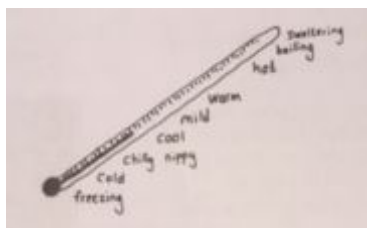
Reading aloud to your children is the most important thing you can do to help them become great readers and listeners. Most of all, they will love you for doing it and will remember the times you read to them.

Vocabulary Development

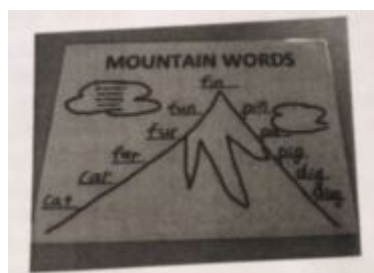
Good readers and writers have a large and diverse vocabulary. In reading, it helps not just with comprehension but with learning and remembering new words as well. In writing, it gives precision and depth to the ideas the author wants to convey.

Some fun activities to try at home:

- **Clines.** These can be used to help your child to understand how a range of words can be used to describe something e.g. temperature.



- **Using newspapers and magazines.** Encourage your child to complete junior crosswords, word searches and puzzles.
- **Word maker.** Make as many words as you can from the letters in one word e.g. How many words can you make out of the word **dangerous**? Sort the words into nouns, verbs and adjectives.
- **Word Morph Games.** Build word chains by changing one letter at a time.



- **Word Dumps.** Take a word and as a family, brainstorm as many words as you can related to that topic e.g. **pirate**.