Book Talk 2

Reading at home

Ideas and prompts to help you when talking to your child about the books they bring home

For fiction (stories/picture books):

Before Reading

- Would you choose this book from the library? Why? Why not?

- Can you point to the title? or What is this? (pointing to the title)

- What do you think this story will be about? What might happen in the story?

- What do we call the writing on the back of the book? (Blurb) or What does the blurb tell us?

During Reading

- What does this word mean (point to an unfamiliar word) How could we check the meaning? What could we use?

- What is happening in the pictures?

- What has happened so far? Is it what you expected to happen?

- What might happen next? How do you think the story might end?

- What sort of character is….? Is he/she friendly/ mean/ nice…?

After Reading

- Did you like this book? Why? (Encourage children to develop their opinion about books by encouraging them to explain their reasons)

- What was the most interesting/ exciting part of the book? Can you find it?

- What happened in the story? Use the pictures to help you.

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For Non-Fiction (fact/information books):

Before Reading

⇒ Why did you choose this book?

⇒ What is the title of this book? Who is the author?

⇒ What do you think you will learn from reading this book?

⇒ Do you already know anything about this topic? What do you know?

⇒ What would you like to find out about this topic?

During Reading

⇒ What does the contents page tell you? Where would you look to find out about….?

⇒ Can you find any photographs or picture? What do they show?

⇒ Why are some of the words written in bold? Do you know what these words mean? How could you find out?

⇒ What is the most interesting thing you have found out from reading this page?

After Reading

⇒ Tell me 3 things you have learned from reading this book?

⇒ What else would you like to know about this topic now? How could we find out?