

Dear

_____ is today bringing home a book from Beginning Reading Instruction. It contains the few simple pointers you and your learner need to follow. If your child has difficulty with a sound, the only 'help' needed is the prompt: 'Say the sounds and read the word.' It is important, whenever possible, to let the reader do the work. When, after a pause, a sound is still not forthcoming, simply say: 'The sound is _____' and carry on. The same letter/sounds will reappear frequently, so there will be plenty of opportunity to practise.

Starting to read is a milestone in your child's education and practice at home gives you an opportunity to take an active part in this reading journey. The task can take patience and work, but should be an enjoyable experience for us all. Your child WILL be 'making mistakes' in early practise, that is quite normal. Praise all effort but resist the urge to over-help. As each story in the series builds on the previous ones, you will see the progress. And remember, let your beginner-reader do the work!

When reading is achieved with few or no mistakes, encourage your child to read to anyone who will listen. But remember, children are often tired after school, so keep reading sessions short.