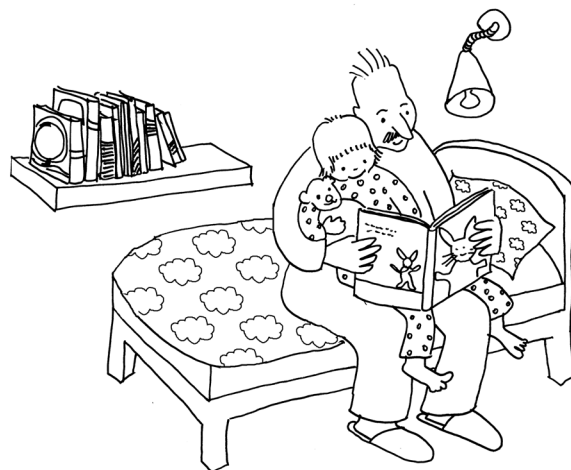


Reading to your child

Children learn a lot if they are read to regularly.

This means that parents need to show their child:

- how to hold a book
- how to open a book
- where the front is
- that a story starts at the front and ends at the back
- that in German/English the writing goes from left to right
- that letters form words and sentences are made from words
- that the writing concerns the story
- that the pictures concern the story



Reference: Dublin Adult Learning Centre

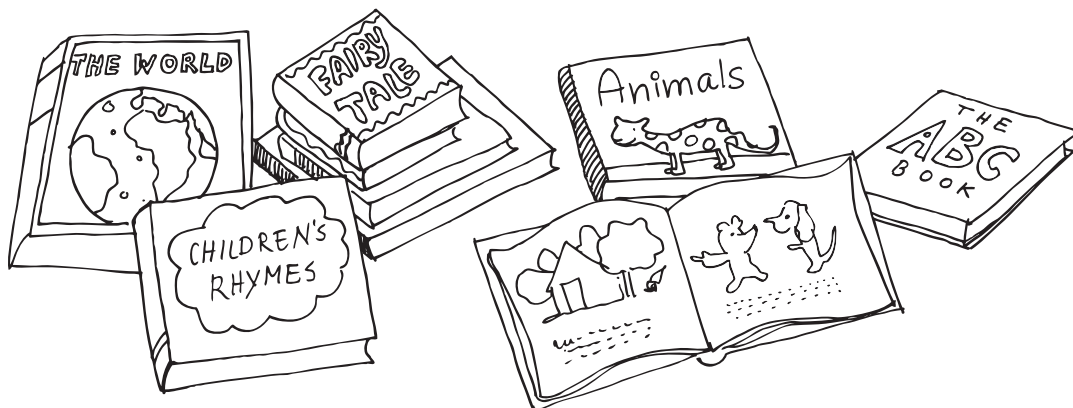
Reading to your child

It is very important that you read to your child and look at books together with him/her.

In this way your child:

- learns to listen and concentrate for longer periods of time
- increases his/her vocabulary and understands new words first heard in stories
- gains confidence in using the new words when speaking.

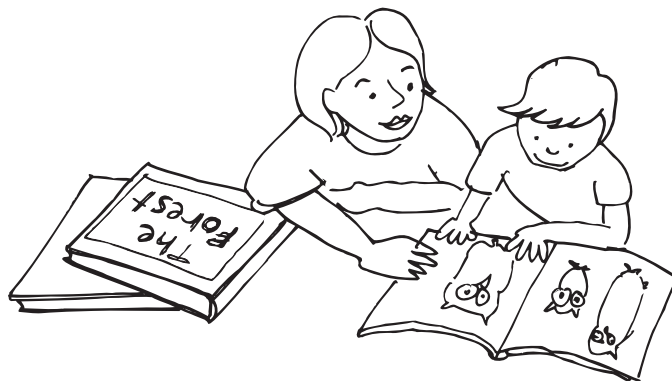
New stories stimulate imagination and the powers of imagination.



Reference: Dublin Adult Learning Centre

Making story reading a pleasure...

- Try to look at a book with your child every day. Take the time to sit down with your child and look at a book.
- Any time or place is the right time and place to share a book with your child when he/she shows an interest.
- Try to provide a variety of books.
- Allow your child to choose a book that appeals to him/her. Talk about the title.
- Encourage your child to ask questions. It is a good sign if your child asks about the story or the pictures. It shows that he/she is interested.
- Vary your voice/tone while reading to suit the atmosphere of the story.
- Use props, for example, finger puppets, cars, teddies to activate the story.
- It is important to repeat favourite stories.



Reference: National Parents Council Primary, Dublin (2004)

- Look at the pictures with your child
- Read the story out loud.
- Cut out the owls and cards.
- Ask your child:
 - What are the owls' names?
 - Explain the words: big – medium – small and ask: "Which size fits which owl?"



Stick Puppets:

- Paste the owls onto the sticks.
- Read the story again and this time your child can act out the part of the owl babies (or all of the owls.)
- Ask your child:
 - "Are you sometimes afraid?"
 - "Are you afraid when I leave home and you are alone?"
 - "What do you do then?"
- Talk about this with your child. Together make a list of things your child can do when he/she is frightened.
- Ask your child to draw a picture of something that he/she is very frightened of and write your child's description below the drawing.





Sebu

Leah

Flo



large

medium

small



1. Questions about the owls:

- How many owl babies are there?
- What colour are the owl babies?
- Why are the owl babies so excited to see their mother?
- What do the owl babies do after their mother returns home?
- What are the owl babies' names?
- Which baby do you think is the youngest? Why?
- Where do the owls live?
- What makes the owl house so comfortable?
- How many owls are there all together?

2. Things to listen to and to do:

- Which word rhymes with "Flea"?
- Which word rhymes with "Mummy"?
- Which word rhymes with "Trees"?
- How many different ways can you say:

"I want my mummy"? (for example quickly, slowly, in a high voice, in a low voice...)

- Look around the room:

"What can you see that is the same colour as the owl babies?"

- Clap every time you hear a word that begins with 'm'.
- Clap every time you hear the sentence "all the owl babies think a lot".
- What is the title of the book?



3. Questions regarding your child's personal opinion

- Can owls think?
- Are owl babies brave?
- How do the owl babies feel at the beginning of the story?
- How do they feel halfway through the story?
- How do they feel at the end of the story?
- Which is your favourite picture? Why?
- Which is your favourite owl baby? Why?
- What do you like about the story? Why?
- Is there anything you don't like? Why?



4. Place for more questions

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

- Make a tree out of play dough and make a hole in it for the owls.
- Make bird masks with your child.
- Think of songs, stories and rhymes with owls in them (for example the poem: 'The Owl and the Pussycat')
Look at books about owls.
- Go for a walk together through the woods and imitate the owl sounds.
- Imitate other sounds of animals that live in the forest.
- Visit the zoo and visit the owls in the zoo.
- Go to the library to look at bird books together.



- Read the story.
Pause at the sentence:
...and he was sent to bed without any supper.

- Ask your child's opinion:
 - "Was Max good or not? Why not?"
 - "How does Max feel now?"
 - "What will he do now?"

- Continue reading the story.

- Cut out the word cards. (Working Sheet 10)

- Talk to your child about how Max feels in each card.
 - "How does Max feel now?"
 - "What is he doing?"

- Talk to your child about where he/she would like to fly to.

- Ask your child if he/she is afraid of the 'wild things' Why?

- Ask your child to draw his/her own 'wild things'.

- Ask your child:
 - "How does Max feel at the end of the story? Why?"

Max is sad.

Max is crying.

Max is wild.

Max is running
around.

Max is tired.

Max is sleeping.

Max is angry.

Max is screaming.

Max is happy.

Max is laughing.

Max is frightened.

Max is trembling.

Make "When... then..." sentences

1. **When** my child _____
then _____

2. **When** my child _____
then _____

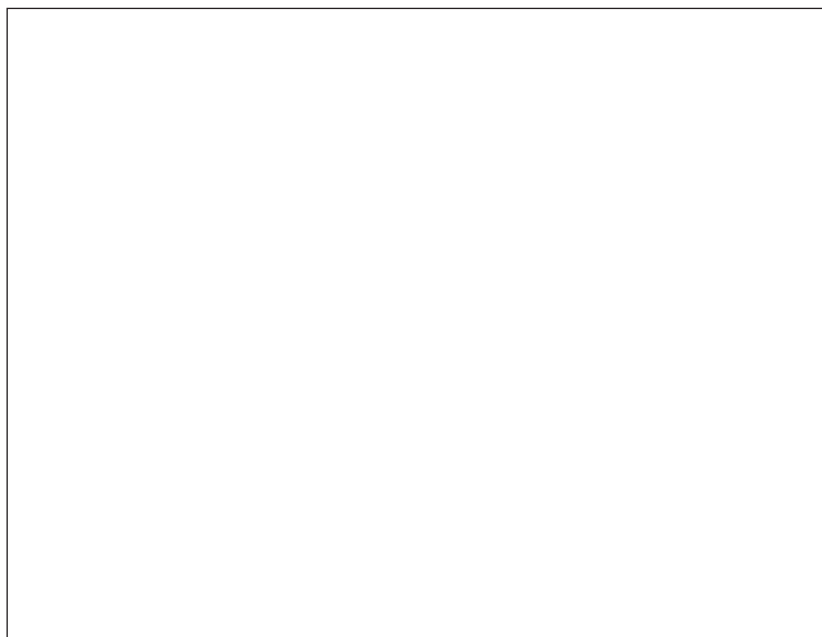
3. **When** my child _____
then _____

When my child:

- screams,
- hits his siblings,
- hits me,
- is cheeky,
- doesn't tidy his/her things away,
- doesn't behave at the table,
- doesn't eat his/her food,
- doesn't do his/her homework,
- doesn't listen to me,
- runs away on the street,
- takes things away from others,
- breaks something,

then:


- I send him/her to his/her room.
- I scold him/her.
- he/she is not allowed to watch TV.
- he/she gets a smack.
- I take away his/her favourite toy.
- he/she is not allowed to eat.
- I forbid him/her to eat sweets .
- _____
- _____
- _____



Place for your child to draw a book.

Book title: _____

Author: _____

I liked: 

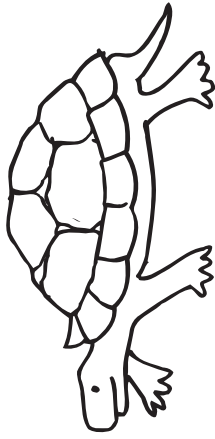
because _____

I didn't like: 

because _____

One sentence about the book:

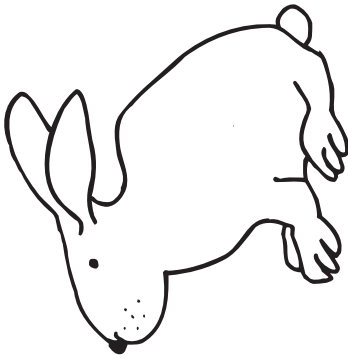
<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I walk very slowly and eat lettuce. • My home is a big thick shell which I carry on my back. • I can pull my head and legs into my shell and hide when I am frightened. • I can become very old. 	<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I hop over the fields. • I love to eat grass and leaves. • I have long ears and a short fluffy tail. • Some people think that I bring the children their Easter eggs. 	<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am very tall and have a very long neck. • I can look down on everything. • My fur is covered in orangey-brown coloured spots. • I live in Africa and eat leaves and twigs. • My name begins with a 'g'. 	<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a bird that cannot fly. • I live in icy cold water in the Antarctic, where I love eating fish. • I look as if I am wearing a black suit. • My name begins with a 'p'.
<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My home is Africa. • I belong to the horse family and can run very fast. • My coat has black and white stripes. • My name begins with a 'z'. 	<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am long and thin and have no legs. • My skin is scaly. • I can be poisonous and sometimes my poison is deadly. • I crawl along the ground or in trees. • Many people are afraid of me. 	<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I like to live in puddles or small ponds. • My skin is green or brown and I can croak very loudly. • I can hop very quickly and I am not easy to catch. • My favourite food is insects. 	<p>What animal am I?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The desert is my home. • I can live there for two weeks without water. • I have two humps on my back. • People can ride on me. • My name begins with a 'c'.



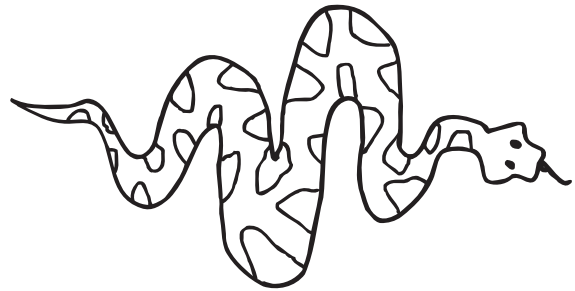
tortoise



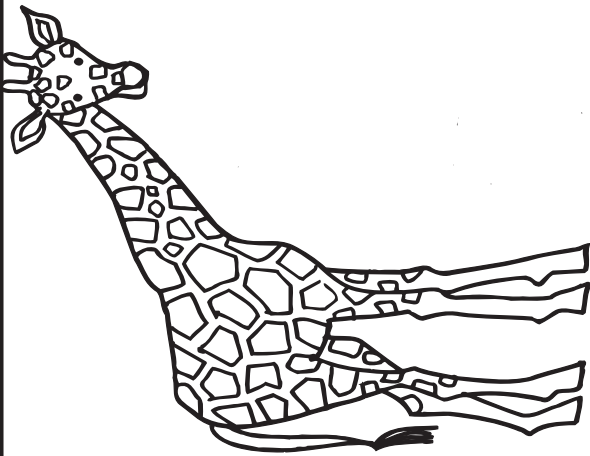
zebra



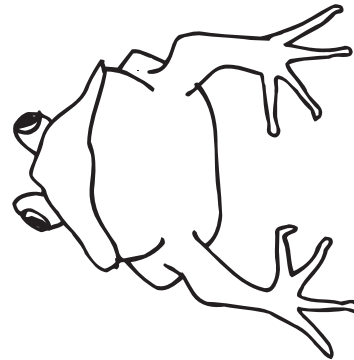
rabbit



snake



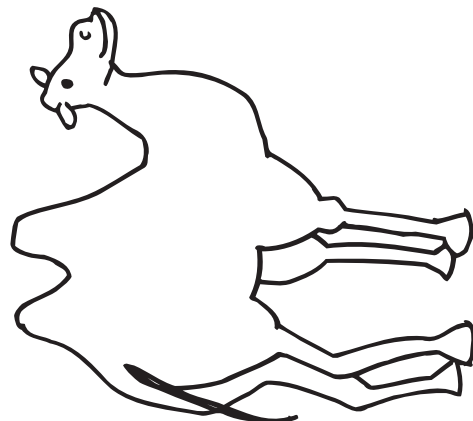
giraffe



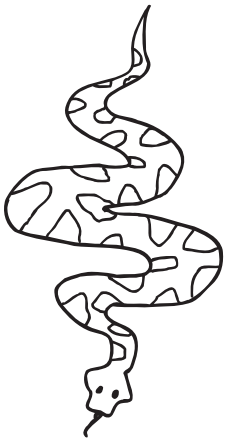
frog



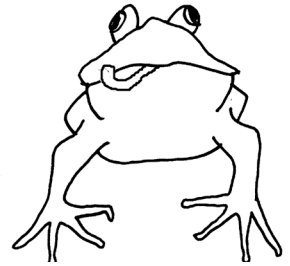
penguin



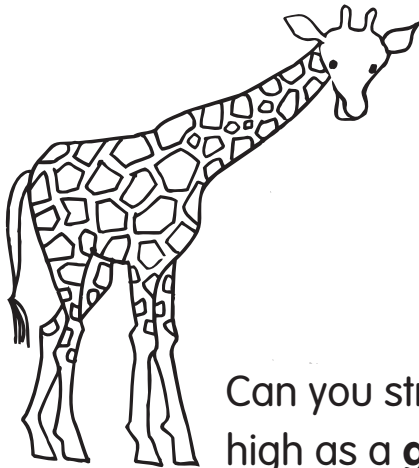
camel



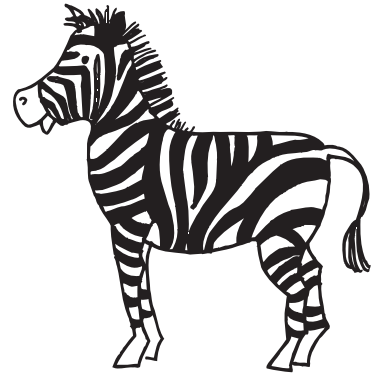
Can you also wiggle on the floor from left to right like a **snake** can



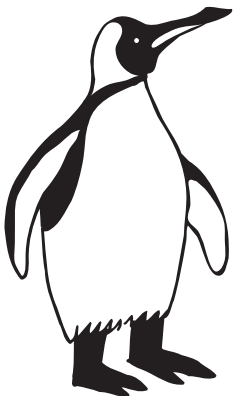
Can you stick your tongue out as far as a **frog** can?



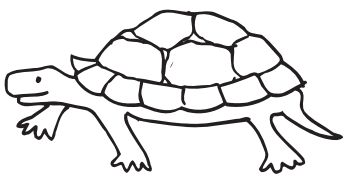
Can you stretch your neck as high as a **giraffe** can?



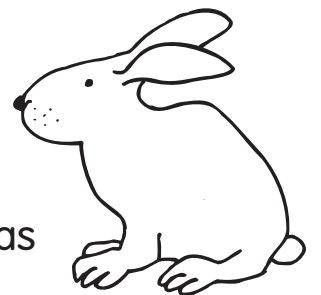
Can you run as fast as a **zebra** can?



Can you waddle like a **penguin**?



Can you kneel down and pull your head and arms in like a **tortoise**?



Can you hop as far as a **rabbit** can?

Tips for speaking correctly

How can I help my child to speak correctly?

Please be patient.

This is a step-by-step process and for many parents it seems to be very slow. Words can be spoken indistinctly; your child may hesitate and make mistakes.

This is completely normal.

- Try to arrange a special time every day to play with your child, look at books, recite rhymes and sing songs together.

- Speak to your child whilst playing with him/her.

- Encourage your child to notice different sounds, for example an aeroplane, animals, the postman...

- Increase your child's vocabulary by offering choices: "Would you like an orange or rather have a banana?"

- Speak to your child about things happening at that moment, for example packing the shopping away, having a bath, watching TV.

- Listen to your child attentively and allow time for him/her to finish speaking.

- Help your child to use more words by completing what he/she has said. For example if he/she says "Ball", then you say: "Throw the ball" or "The ball is gone."

Daily opportunities to speak together

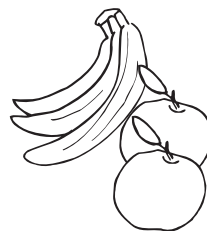
• Shopping

What vegetables do we need?

What fruit do we need?

Please fetch two apples and a banana.

What do we put on our bread? (Butter, jam)



• Washing

What am I washing you with?

How did you hurt your knee?

Which toys are made of plastic and can go into the water?

What do we use to wash your hair?

Do you remember when you were at the hairdresser...?

Let's sing a song together.

Let's fill the empty bottle with water.



• Getting dressed

Put on your red pullover and blue trousers.

What do you put on first?

Which trousers are the shortest/longest?

Can you remember where we bought your shoes?

What do you wear in summer/winter?

• Looking at books

There's the beach – can you remember all the things we saw on the beach?

There's the farm – which animals does the farmer look after?

Here they are celebrating a birthday – can you remember on your birthday...?



• Going for a walk

Let's see who can find the biggest/smallest leaf?

What can we see up in the sky?

My child is being raised bilingually

There are more bilingual than monolingual children in the world.

A bilingual child uses more than one language every day, for example he/she speaks Turkish at home and German at school. In certain situations the majority of bilingual children feel more confident in one of the languages, for example they use their mother tongue when speaking about home subjects such as religion and culture, but prefer to speak German when speaking about school.

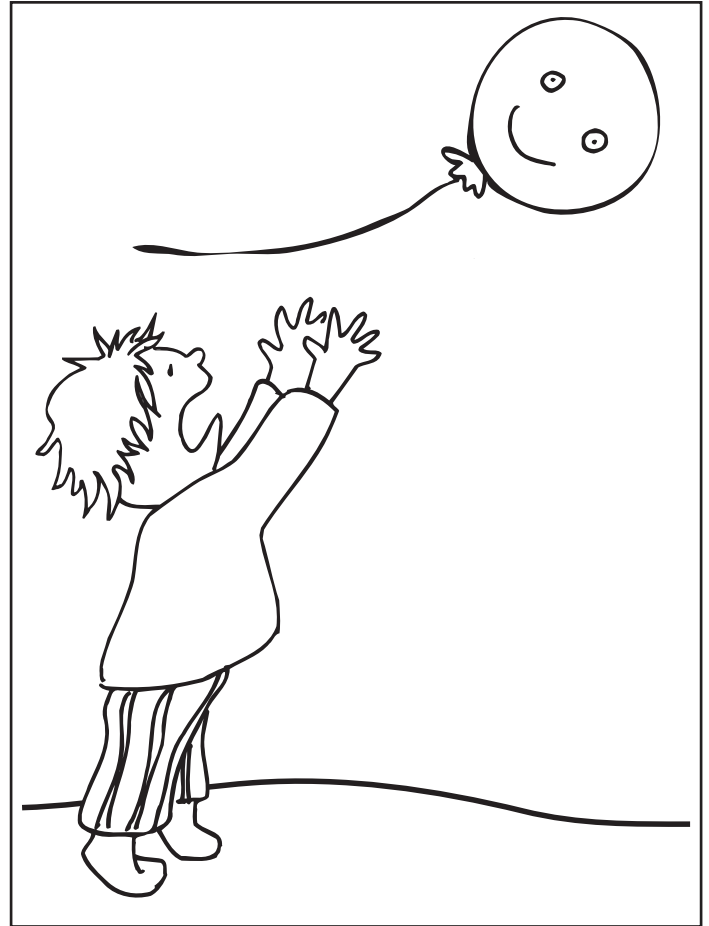
A child is considered to be bilingual when he/she understands more than one language, but he/she does not necessarily need to speak that language.

Many children start speaking their mother tongue at home at a very early age. They start answering in German when they go to kindergarten or preschool even though their parents speak to them in their mother tongue.

A child need not be able to write or read in another language in order to be bilingual.



Reference: Dublin Adult Learning Center



Word list

the child	upwards
hold tightly	stretch the arms out
the balloon	cry
to be happy	where to?
fly away	comfort
the sky	place for another word

Questions

- Why is the boy happy?
- Why is the boy crying?
- How can the child be comforted?



Word list

the bath tub	play
the tap	the toys
the water runs in	the duck
hot	the goggles
warm	the fish
cold	the whale

Questions

- Why do we bath?
- What do we need goggles for?
- Do you like playing in the bath?