



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



A guide for parents:

**Help your child become a
better reader**



When I come to a "tricky" word, I can...



look at the **picture**
for clues.



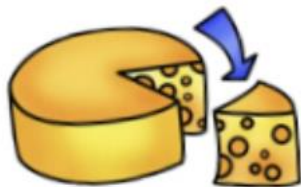
start to **say the first**
sound of the word.



skip over the word, **finish**
the sentence, and **re-read**.



s-t-r-e-t-c-h out the
sounds **slowly** in the word.



look for **parts** or
chunks I know.



think about the **meaning**
of the story.

More confident readers:

When I'm stuck on a word...

Skippy the Frog



Skip the word and come back

Trying Lion



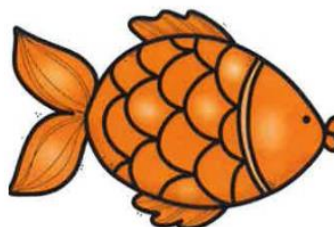
Re-read and check it makes sense

Eagle Eyes



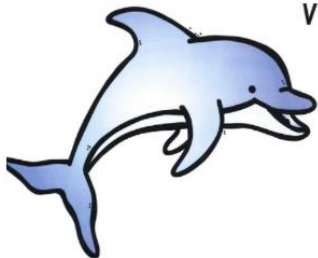
Use the pictures to help tell the story

Lips the Fish



Get your mouth ready to make the sounds

Flippy the Dolphin



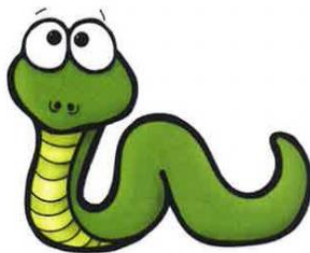
What other sounds can the letters make?

Caring Kangaroo



Ask for help when you've tried to work it out

Stretchy Snake



Skip the word and come back

Chunky Monkey



Look for chunks and the parts you know

Understanding the text/ story

Help your child to improve their understanding by asking some of these questions.

Basic Recall Questions

- Who is the main character in the story?
- Who are the other characters in the story?
- What is your favourite part of the chapter or book?
- Describe your favourite character.
- Where do you think the story takes place? Why do you think that?
- When do you think the story takes place? Why do you think that?
- What is the problem in this story?
- How is the problem solved?
- Why do you think the author wrote this story? What did he/she want you to learn?

Inferring Questions

- Can you predict what is going to happen next? Why did you make that prediction? Can you point to something in the book that helped you make that prediction? OR What do you already know that helped you make that prediction?
- Why did the character do that?
- What did the author mean by?
- What's going to happen next?
- The character must be feeling *insert emotion*. Are there any clues

Synthesising Questions

- Is there anything that you understand in a new way from reading this story?
- What idea's (concepts or feelings) are the most interesting to you? Why?
- Does (a historical event or personal experience) make more sense after reading this?
- Does this book make you think of anything that has happened to you? If so, what?
- Does this story remind you of anything you have read?

Analysing Questions

- What things would make everyone like this book?
- In what ways does the author make you feel as if you were there?
- What are some examples of rich, colourful, or great language that make this a good passage to read?

Critiquing Questions

- What is unbelievable about this text?
- Should other kids read this? Why or why not?
- What important information is missing?
- Would people in your life act this way?
- What would have made this story more interesting to read?
- What are the words or phrases that you really liked or disliked?