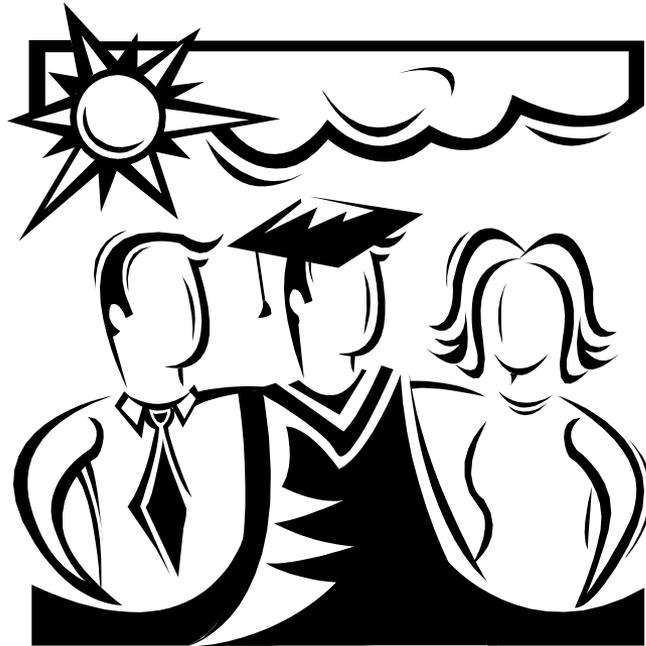


# TOP TIPS FOR READING WITH THE RELUCTANT

Alison Muir, BHISS Literacy Team  
Mile Oak Primary School

# First thoughts...



- You are not alone!
- Resisting homework at some point is normal.
- So is a vicious cycle of anxiety between parent and child.
- Finding some strategies now will pay off for the next ten years!

# No rules, just some ideas



- Each child is an individual.
- Find the way that works for you.

# You've got to....

- Accentuate the positive!
- Eliminate the negative
- Latch on to the affirmative
- Don't mess with Mr In-between



**My child likes it if**

# Accentuate the positive

- Choice – at least two books to choose from each time
- Books for practice and books for fun
- Alternatives to books – comics, speedy reading games, apps computer games!



# Accentuate the positive

- Praise – focus on all the words they can read, not the ones they are stuck on.
- Silent high 5 when they get a tricky word, summary of what they did well at the end.
- ‘Pizazz’ – exaggerated comic excitement.
- Visible positive reinforcement – reading chart, take photos, make a video, record them



# Accentuate the positive

- Make it special!
- Special 'contract' to set it up.
- Special chart or coupons
- Special pens
- Special stickers
- A special toy for reading time.



My child doesn't like it if

# Eliminate the Negative

- If they are stuck on a word, it's okay to just give it to them quickly.
- ***If they are stuck on lots of words the book is probably too hard.***
- It's okay to read a book to your child, then have them read it to you, later or another day.



# If all books seem to be quite hard...



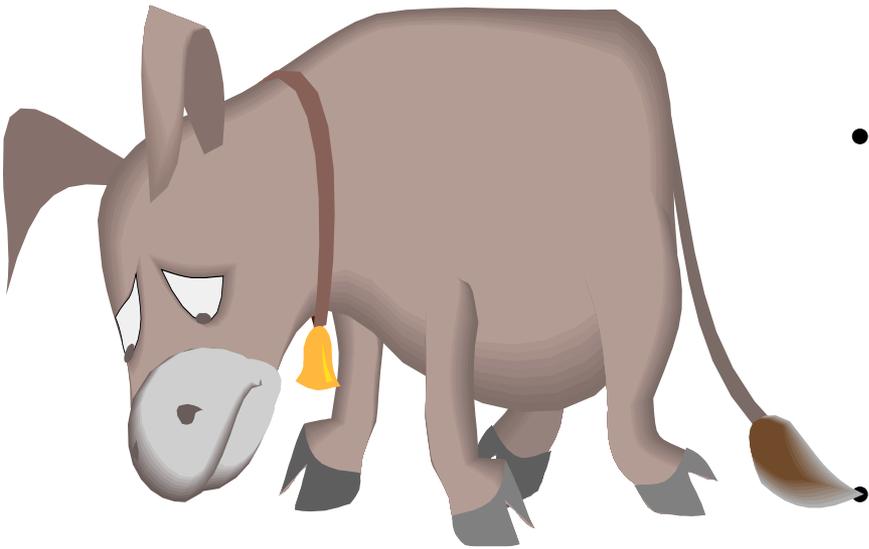
- ***Some children find sounding out very slow and tiring.***
- ***Some children take more practice to recognise the common tricky words (like 'was'.)***
- ***Speedy reading games can help build these skills.***

# If all books seem to be quite hard...



- ***Different schemes work in different ways – your child may need to get really familiar with one or two schemes***
- ***It's okay to have some books in for practice and some books for fun.***
- ***If things are really tough, you may need to start with a routine where you do almost all the reading.***

# If all books seem to be quite hard...



- ***Children can become very aware of bands and levels and want to pretend that hard books are ‘too easy’.***
- ***Lots of reminders that children who appear to find reading easy are probably doing a lot of practice (Matthew effect!)***
- ***Mix of books, speedy reading games, reading charts to give evidence of success.***

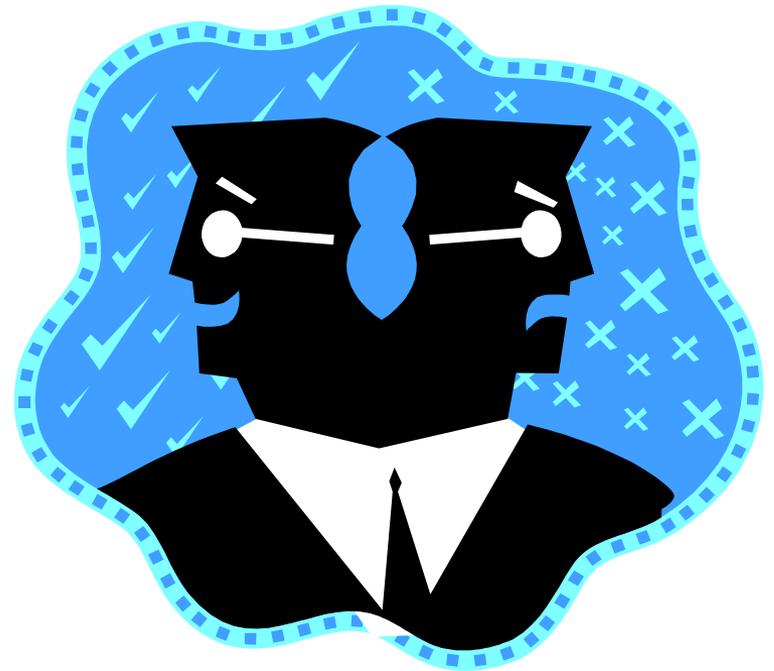
# Latch on to the affirmative

- Right time and place
- Probably not bed time
- Think through and plan what is realistic and best for you
- Investing effort in establishing this routine will pay off for the rest of your child's school life



# Don't Mess with Mr In Between!

- Consequence for not reading ('screen' time?)
- Rewards depend on attitude as well as just doing it
- Give a little time for any new system to start to work.



# Over the holidays

- Lots of reading to your child.
- Use your library!
- Games
- Minute a day booklets
- Websites and apps

