

Spend just 10 minutes a day reading with your child. This helps children develop social and emotional skills and become confident, happy learners.

### **Top Tips for Reading Together**

- Find somewhere quiet away from noise, television and the phone.
- Get comfortable. Invite brothers and sisters to join in the fun.
- Try and bring the story to life by making animal noises or sound effects.
- Have the child interact as much as possible with the words in the communication device.
- Ask questions when you are reading together such as, 'What can you see on this page?' 'How do you think he/she feels?'
- Try asking your child to use the device to retell the story. Ask her to tell you what is happening on each page.
- Look at the pictures and make comments. 'Look at that funny bird' 'He has long feathers'. 'I wonder what he will do next'.
- Remember: talking with the child's device will help him/her learn more words. This is called modeling.
- It is okay to read the same book again and again. Familiar books are comforting and build confidence.
- Play a guessing game when you are out and about. Ask your child to use the device to identify numbers or letters. He can also tell you about signs or posters along the way.
- Encourage your child to use the device to ask a lot of questions. It is a very important skill that every learner needs.
- Visit your local library together. Get your child a library card and encourage him to choose a book to check out.