TOP TIPS!

Begin by talking about the front cover and then talk through the book / model some of the expression used - point out words that you know will be tricky. Show them that the main aim is to enjoy the book.



Let the child hold the book and point to the words themselves (for pink and red levels) to make sure it matches with what they are saying.

If they are unsure of a word, encourage them to work it out by themselves — you can say:

What would make sense? Look at the sounds in that word. Re-read the line or read on.

Or if they make a mistake say: Can you sort that out?

Talk about how to use a "story voice," what to do when they see a full stop or a question mark. Model and practise putting the words together quickly so that their reading is well phrased.

Look out for the keywords and make sure the child is reading these by sight rather than attempting to sound them out. After reading, ask a quick question to ensure the child has understood what they have read.

Focus on the content of the book — the exciting story or the interesting facts rather than talking about the colour book band.