

Bedtime Stories

Let your child choose any book and start reading, watch closely and look out for opportunities to count, spot shapes, numbers and patterns. You could play 'I spy with my little eye' on each page and take turns to look for things. This will help your child to stay actively involved and concentrate.. Talk about what you can see and encourage your child to recognise circles, squares and other shapes as well as numbers one, two and three. Often when you point out these things, your child will copy you. Have fun sharing the book together.



Supporting your child to develop their language

Try to remember to wait and pause, give ten seconds for thinking time, listen to your child and then respond.

When you talk about the book together, pause between some of the comments or questions to give your child time to think, time to understand and time to just enjoy each other's company.

Words to share

Circle, square, triangle, one, two, three, four, five, round, corner, curved, straight

Making it work for your family

Keep it simple at first, you might begin by looking for just one shape and counting up to three of these. As your child becomes more confident in seeing the shapes and counting them, see if they can start to do this more independently.



Next time you could try ...

reading a different book together - see if they can still recognise the shapes, numbers and patterns.

Look all around you, **talk together** about the things you see, **recap together** on what you have enjoyed - children enjoy doing the same activity again and again and again - this really helps them to learn and remember.