










Reading prompts to help children with difficult or new words.






Prompts to encourage close visual attention:

-  What can you see that may help you?
-  Make sure that what you say matches what you can see.
-  Point with your finger to each word as you read.
-  Take your finger away and read with your eyes.





Prompts to support use of word recognition skills:

-  It starts like this (indicate first letter) – get your mouth ready to say the sound.
-  Look carefully at the letters in the word, make their sounds, and blend them together.
-  What do you already know about that word?
-  Look for a part you know in that word – show me with your fingers.
-  Try to break the word into chunks/syllables. Now put them together and read them.







Prompts to encourage use of grammar:

-  Were you listening to yourself? Did that sound right?
-  Would you say it like that?
-  Read it again – read the punctuation.




Prompts to reinforce the use of meaning and comprehension:

-  Did you listen to yourself? Did what you said make sense?
-  Go back and read from the beginning of the sentence to make sure you have understood what you are reading.
-  Read on (or look back) in the story to see if that helps you to make sense.
-  Put your words together so it sounds like talking.



Prompts to reinforce the use of more than one clue:

-  You said (word) – did that look right and sound right?
-  Try that again – listen to yourself to check that what you said sounded right and made sense.
-  Did that look right, sound right, and make sense?
-  What do you know that can help you?
-  What else can you try?
-  How did you know it was ...?

More open-ended prompts (calling for the child to take ownership):

-  Why did you stop?
-  What did you notice?
-  Something wasn't quite right – can you fix it?

Prompts with least help:

-  See if you can find what's wrong.
-  Try that again.

This is by no means an exhaustive or definitive list.