**Transcript: Supporting your child’s reading at home in Years 3 to 6**

Your child in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6 will more than likely be able to read for themselves. However it is important that you look for opportunities to continue reading aloud to your child, setting aside time for independent reading. There are many benefits to reading aloud with your child. For example, reading aloud improves vocabulary, enabling your child to hear new words and language before they independently see them in print. It also creates a special time each day for parents or carers to connect with their child. Reading aloud also provides opportunities to improve reading comprehension and exposure to a range of reading materials.

With this in mind, here are some ideas to support your child to engage with reading at home.

* Firstly, limit distractions such as the television and other devices. Find a comfortable space: the lounge, a beanbag, the back deck - a place where you and your child feel comfortable. Make this an enjoyable time together, to read and talk about a text.
* As a parent or carer, you can take turns reading with your child. Read to your child and then listen as they read. Besides making reading fun, reading aloud is about making sense and understanding what is read. Parents can help children understand a text by making connections with what their child is reading and the experiences your child may have had or heard about.
* Incorporate the five ‘w’s strategy to ask questions about the text.

Ask questions about why, when, where, who and what to help your child gather important information and ideas from the text. Who are the main characters? Where is this part of the story set? Why did a character behave in a certain way?

* Good readers are always thinking ahead and predicting what might happen next. To support your child as you read together you might ask questions like:

What will happen next? I wonder what would happen if? or Who do you think this might involve?

More information on ways you can support your child’s reading at home, are available in the parent guides on the reading centre website.