



Talk of the Town is a national research project taking place in your child's school until July 2015. Talk of the Town helps children with talking, listening and learning new words.

This term the focus in school is on telling stories. Telling stories is really important to help children with their talking, reading and writing.

## Talking for reading

Here's a really simple activity to help your child talk about books. You could try this with your child at home:

- Choose a picture book to read together.
- Find somewhere quiet to sit with your child. When it's quiet, children find it easier to listen, think and talk.
- Go through the book together just looking at the pictures. Take turns to talk about what you can see in each picture.
- Talk to your child about what happens. You could use the picture strip provided to help you talk about different parts of the story:
  - This picture shows us **WHO** was in the story...
  - **WHEN** does the story take place?
  - I really liked **WHERE** they went.
  - **WHAT** happens next?
  - I think I know **HOW IT ENDS**....
  - **HOW** are they feeling? **WHY**?
- Children find the "why" questions hardest, so try to leave these until last.
- When you've looked at all the pictures, you could read the book together. Looking at the pictures first will help your child understand the story better when it's read out loud.
- You can talk about the story again once you've read it. Do you notice anything different this time? Were there any fun or interesting words?



For more activities to help your child talk about books and tell stories, ask your child's class teacher.



WHO?



WHEN?



WHERE?



WHAT  
HAPPENS?



FEELINGS/  
THE END

