

# OTATARA SCHOOL



## Helping at Home

### Year Three & Four

#### Reading

- ♦ Read aloud to your child every day
- ♦ Talk about the home readers they read to you, perhaps the characters, setting, storyline, ideas within the text
- ♦ Share favourite stories getting your child to retell them to you
- ♦ Look up information together on the internet or in encyclopedias or atlases
- ♦ Play games together, e.g. scrabble, word memory, charades etc
- ♦ Model reading for a purpose and for pleasure and talk about what you are reading with your child perhaps discussing interesting phrases or ideas

#### Writing

- ♦ Write together about trips or special events
- ♦ Encourage your child to write letters, lists, invitations, emails to family and friends
- ♦ Help your child learn their spelling words- talk about sounds in words  
[http://www.otatara.school.nz/spelling\\_lists.html](http://www.otatara.school.nz/spelling_lists.html)
- ♦ Talk about words and their meanings, encourage students to expand their vocabulary
- ♦ Make stories together  
<http://storybird.com/>  
<http://littlebirdtales.com/>  
<http://microsoft-photo-story.en.softonic.com/>

#### Listening and Speaking

- ♦ Model and encourage good listening and speaking skills
- ♦ Attend live theatre or story telling events
- ♦ Support your child in memorising poems, songs etc
- ♦ Encourage your child to talk about their learning and their wonderings

#### Mathematics

- ♦ Support your child to have quick recall of their addition and subtraction facts to 10 & 20 e.g.  $19-5$ ,  $13+4$
- ♦ Play maths games with dice and card games as a family
- ♦ Involve your child with maths related tasks at home for example shopping, timetables, cooking
- ♦ Work with your child on their numeracy knowledge 'I can' sheet
- ♦ Provide access to computer games at their stage on  
[http://www.nzmaths.co.nz/number-knowledge-activities?parent\\_node=](http://www.nzmaths.co.nz/number-knowledge-activities?parent_node=)  
or the school website  
<http://www.otatara.school.nz/numeracy.html>



#### Inquiring

- ♦ Share experiences with your child that will spark their curiosity
- ♦ Involve them in experiments and investigations
- ♦ Cook and bake with them and talk about changes to foods etc
- ♦ Take things apart and talk about how they work
- ♦ Look closely at plants, artworks, animals, sharing your observations
- ♦ Talk about significant people and places
- ♦ Support them to become involved with local issues