Reading Prompts

These prompts can be useful to use with your child when reading to support them with particular skills.

Open-ended:

- What did you notice?
- Try that again.
- Were you right?
- How did you know it was?
- Look carefully and think what you know.
- Was that okay?
- Why did you stop?
- How did you know you were right?

To hear sounds and words:

- What is the first letter/sound?
- Where is the first/last letter?
- Where do we start?
- What is a word that starts with that letter/sound?
- Do you know another word that sounds like that?
- Can you hear the first/end part of the word?

To locate:

- Read it with your finger, did it match?
- Were there enough words?
- Did you run out of words?
- Point to each word as you read
- Can you find the tricky word?
- What do you expect to see at the beginning, middle or end?
- Run a finger under it while you say it slowly.

To attend to Meaning and Structure:

- You said.....does that make sense?
- Would that make sense?
- Would....fit in that sentence?
- You said....can we say it in that way?
- Is that a capital letter or a small one?
- What is happening in the picture?
- What would you do?

To look:

- Wouldstart like that?
- I liked the way you used your eyes.
- Does it look right?
- Does it look like?
- Look for something that will help you.
- Use your eyes and think about it.
- Do you know a word that looks like that?
- Can you think of a word that starts with?

To think about processing:

- What could this word be?
- You solved the tricky word, how did you do that?
- How would the character ask that question?
- You made a mistake on this page, can you find it?

To attend to fluency and/or phrasing:

- Can you make your reading sound like a story?
- Read it all smoothly.
- Let's put this together.
- Are you listening to yourself?
- Did that sound good?
- How could you change your voice?
- Would you say it like that?
- Can you read this quickly?
- Read up to my finger.
- How can you change your voice when you see the marks on the page (full stops, question/speech marks etc.

Prompting to check:

- Check it.
- Were you right?
- What could you check?
- Does it look AND sound right?
- Does it make sense and look right?
- You made a mistake on that page, can you find it?
- What's wrong with this?

Comprehension – to think about the story/message:

- You said....does that make sense?
- What did the character do that was nice/nasty/funny etc?
- What do you think will happen next, why?
- Can you retell the story to me?
- What happened at the beginning, middle, end of the book?