**The Literacy Environment**

Developing the literacy environment in your classroom can make a real difference to children's excitement about reading.

**Reviewing the reading environment in your classroom**

* Does the environment in your classroom invite children to read?
* What kinds of texts are there?
* How are books displayed and categorised?
* What opportunities are there for children to browse and read together?
* How are books organised in your classroom?
* Are there categories such as books we know well, easy reads, short novels, poetry, books about animals etc?
* Do you use labelled baskets or boxes to aid browsing and choosing?
* Is shelving adequate?
* Do you display some books face on?
* Do you create displays with children eg our top ten books, an author display?
* Do you display children’s reviews and comments?
* Are there any extras eg cushions, carpet, chairs, plants, drapes, to give a warm comfortable feel?

Here are some of the kinds of books you might have in your classroom collection:

* Picture books
* Wordless books
* Alphabet books
* Pop-up and novelty books
* Big books and smaller copies
* Poetry and rhyme
* Folk tales from many cultures
* Shorter chapter books
* Longer novels
* Books in series
* Graphic books
* Information books

If you would like to review the reading environment in your classroom, see the resources below