The 3 Ps—Pause, Prompt, Praise

Pause

Before responding it is important to first wait, giving the child time to try to work out the word for themselves.

Prompt

Encourage the child to look at the pictures
Ask:  
  What word might make sense?
  What would sound right?
  What does it start with?

If the word makes sense
  • allow the child to continue reading.

If the word doesn’t make sense
  • encourage the child to have another try
  • tell the child the word.

Praise

At all times it is important that children are praised and encouraged for their efforts. The support and encouragement provided through praise will greatly assist children’s reading development. Try comments like:

I like the way you … That’s what good readers do.
Well done …
That’s really great …
You must have been practising …
You did a lot of work today …