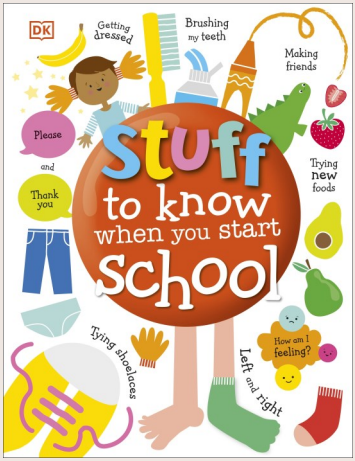
Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY
Book Tip Sheet

Stuff to Know When You Start School

DK

Different children can have different worries and expectations about starting school. Reading this book together can help start conversations with them and give you ideas for activities and skills they can work on before starting school. This is also a great book for exploring how we read non-fiction books differently to picture books.



BEFORE READING...

- Look at the cover and read the title – what sort of things do you think you should know when you start school?
- Introduce your child to the contents page. Point out the page numbers next to each heading in the list. Your child might want to start reading from the start of the book, or go to a section they're interested in.

WHILE READING...

- We read information books differently to how we read picture books. Point to the section you are reading to help your child track where you are on the page.
- This book was first published in the U.K. Discuss with your child how there can be different words for the same thing (like welly for gum boots) and how it snows there, unlike most places in Australia.

AFTER READING...

- There are lots of activities in the book to do after reading – you can sing the songs (or find recordings online if you don't know the tune) and try some of the activities on pages 44–45.
- The book has an index at the end of it – show your child how this is similar to a contents page, but here key words are listed in alphabetical order, with all the page numbers where you can find out about them.

Email read@unitedway.com.au for address changes or any questions!