

Helping your KS1 child with reading at home



Whilst children read at school, individually, in groups and as part of a class, there are also lots of ways that you can support your child at home.

We would encourage you to hear your child read their reading books as often as possible (remember little and often is best), but there are also other ways that you can read with your child or promote the pleasure of reading. Here are a few ideas to help you...

Becoming a reader involves the development of important skills;

- ❖ Using language in conversation
- ❖ Listening and responding to stories read aloud
- ❖ Recognising and naming the letters of the alphabet and the sounds that they make
- ❖ Reading often so that recognition of words becomes automatic and easy
- ❖ Learning and using new words
- ❖ Understanding what is read



Model a love of reading with your child - let children see that you value books. Seeing adults enjoying reading from books, newspapers, magazines, recipes or menus will make children want to read themselves.

Keep books safe and encourage children to have a special place where their books can be stored. Show them how to turn pages carefully.



Children learn from the world around them and from seeing labels, notices and signs which are written in print. Encourage children to look for words they know all around them!

Make time to read with your child and hear them read. Encourage them to share reading with friends, grandparents, brothers, sisters and other family members.

Try to provide a peaceful atmosphere with no distractions so that children can fully enjoy listening to, or reading, a book.

Practice the sounds of language - read books with rhymes. Teach your child rhymes, short poems and songs.

Play simple word games eg *How many words can you make up that sound like the word 'cat'?*





Help your child take spoken words apart and put them back together. Help your child separate the sounds in words, listen for the beginning and ending sounds and put separate sounds together.

Let children have time to attempt words that they are unsure of before you give them the word. Help them to get the initial sound or try breaking the word into smaller sections. If your child is struggling, give them the word but encourage them to re-read the sentence correctly to reinforce the new word they have learnt and hear themselves successfully reading the sentence.

Practice the alphabet by pointing out letters wherever you see them!

Practise the sounds that letters make too.

You could reinforce the letters and sounds your child is learning by cutting out letters, and pictures of things that begin with that letter, from magazines or comics and create a collage.



Share stories with your child and re-read familiar books. Children learn the patterns of language from hearing stories and need practice in reading comfortably and with expression using books they know. They may even enjoy reading the story to younger sibling or friend.

Write labels under pictures or objects to show them that words belong to things.



Join your local library - children can have access to hundreds of good quality books, both fiction and non-fiction...and its free!

Play 'I Spy' - It's a good way of showing that every word begins with a letter.

You can also play games where children identify the odd one out in a list like cat, mat, dot, rat.

Play card games like Bingo, Memory cards, Snap and Go Fish.



Ask your child to write a review of their favourite book.

- ❖ What was their favourite part?
- ❖ What did they enjoy about the book?
- ❖ Who were their favourite characters?
- ❖ Would they recommend the book to a friend?

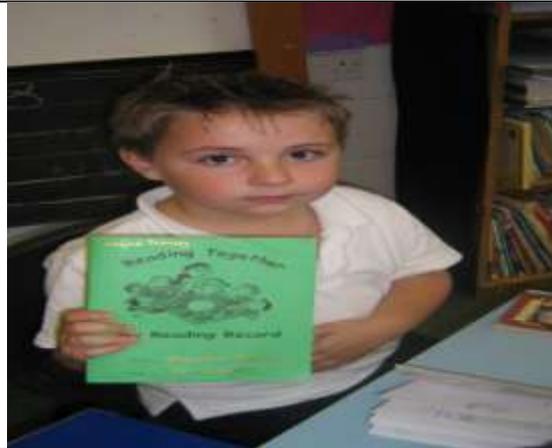
Model reading from left to right by pointing to words with your finger, then theirs.





Make your favourite recipe together. Read the instructions carefully and enjoy creating something tasty and fun to eat! Maybe you could even try to write your own recipe.

Keep in touch with the school and let us know if books need to be changed or you feel your child is finding the level of books they have been given, or areas of their reading, difficult. Please also feel free to share any reading successes or areas of reading interest that your child really enjoys, with us.



If English is not your family's first language, look for books that are printed in a dual language. You can talk about books or stories in any language.

Let your children help you with the shopping!
Give them a list of say five things that they need to find as you walk around the shop together.



As they find them they can tick them off their list.

Role-play is a great way to promote the use of story language and allow children to re-tell stories in their own style.



Encourage your child to make masks or puppets of the characters in their favourite story or dress up as different characters. They could create their own play of the story on their own or with friends - they could even give a performance to family and friends!

The 100 Key Words are the words that your child will come across regularly in both their reading and writing, and includes some of the 'tricky or red words' that are difficult to sound phonetically or are frequently misread or misspelt.

- ❖ Practise the 100 Key Words by making 'Flash cards'.
- ❖ *How many words can you read in a minute?*
- ❖ Challenge children to find given Key Words in books they are reading.
- ❖ Make Key Words out of playdough or letters made from a variety of fabrics or materials.

When you next go out for a walk, ask your child to suggest adjectives (describing words) or similes to describe what they see. For example, the leaves are golden and crispy and the sea is as sparkly as a diamond necklace.



Praise your child for trying hard with their reading. Celebrate their successes, but let them know that it is all right to make mistakes!

Keep old newspapers and magazines. Let children cut out large letters and use them to create words and sentences. Can they spell their name using lots of different font types?

Let your child make their own book. It could be a story or information book or just pictures and a few words.

What could the title be?

Will your book have illustrations?

Does your story have a beginning, middle and an end?

Will the book need an index?



Create a 'Topic Dictionary' eg football

A - attack

B - ball

C - captain

D - dribble

Give children some words to put into an alphabetical order. It could be 5 of their favourite dinosaurs, friends, footballers, music groups, etc.



Encourage your child to read their favourite book to a friend.

They could write 3 questions to ask their friend about the book, once they have read the story.

Use fridge magnet letters to spell out words and messages.

Children could practise their spelling from their packs too!

YOUR
MESSAGE
HERE

Create an easy 'treasure hunt'.

Let the children chose a letter. Challenge them to find say 10 things that begin with that letter. Alternatively give them a list of 10 things to read and find.

E-readers

E-reading devices such as Kindles, tablets, phones etc have been around only a few years, but it's already hard to imagine life without them. E-books can be more interactive and whilst add-ons can distract, they can be useful for beginning readers, who can zoom in on unfamiliar words or click links that help with decoding and meaning. They bring picture books to life on tablet platforms. They can also cater to a child's unique learning style; a high-tech device can be the hook to get a child reading and it appeals to more visual learners. There are reviews online about the merits of different e-readers as well as many "best apps" guide which include children's apps. Below are some e-book and app sources:

E-book sources: MeComics, LibriVox, Story Cloud, Amazon

Apps: Nosy Crow, Oceanhouse Media, Disney Books, Auryn

Remember technology will never replace good parenting and good teachers. So when you read to your child — regardless of whether it's a traditional or e-book — keep the conversation lively. Talk about what they see on the page. Ask what they think will happen next.



Reading is one of the most valuable and rewarding skills your child will learn.

We know that children who read regularly to an adult at home, make greater and quicker progress in the development of their reading and comprehension skills. Therefore any time you can spend hearing your child read will provide valuable support to their learning.

Useful websites:

www.oxfordowl.co.uk - has ideas and games to play; on-line books that can be linked to the sound they are learning

www.educationcity.com - good phonic games

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize - games based on phonics and sentence structure

www.rif.org.uk

www.literacytrust.org.uk - advice and ideas for recommended books and activity sheets

www.love2read.co.uk

www.topmarks.co.uk - various games and on-line books

www.pbskids.org

www.sparklebox.co.uk - resources for sounds and key words

www.kidsandreading.co.uk

www.readtogether.co.uk

www.schooljotter.com/showpage

www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk

www.phonicsplay.co.uk