

Reading support guidance

Reception and Key Stage 1



Thank you for supporting your children with their reading. It is incredibly important that children have opportunities to read with an adult and that they **really enjoy it too!** Practise makes progress and children **develop their pleasure for reading by sharing it with others.** We hope you enjoy it too!

At this early reading stage, the focus is for children to **learn to use phonics to decode words.** At the same time, they are learning to **recognise tricky words** which cannot be tackled using phonics and **understanding word meaning.**

Your role is a **supportive, encouraging co-reader.** Share the book by showing interest in their reading and ideas, taking part and offering gentle support. Show your child that you are **enjoying reading** with them. Giving lots of **support and praise** is great for their confidence.



- ✓ Find a quiet, comfy place.
- ✓ Do take your time, there is no pressure for a child to race through a book to finish it, better to read fewer pages and enjoy sharing ideas and opinions about it. Aim to read with them for around 10 - 15 minutes but you can be flexible with this. Some children will want to read for hours while others will say they are done after a sentence. Speak with the class teacher if you are unsure how long a read should take.
- ✓ Child holds the book and turns the pages.
- ✓ Child or you point to the words as they are read.
- ✓ Talk about the book before opening it by looking at the front cover, the title and the pictures.
- ✓ Make predictions - what might the story be about? What words might appear? If they have read the book before, can your child summarise what happens.

Strategies to support your reader

- ✓ Try not to interrupt the reading if possible.
- ✓ If they make a mistake, give them time to spot their mistake and correct it.
- ✓ If they don't self-correct, ask them to look at that bit again and re-read it. Support the child to do this if they need.
- ✓ Use pictures for clues if needed and predict the word by saying the first sound.
- ✓ Encourage the child to say each sound within the word and blend them together
- ✓ Look for smaller words within longer words to support decoding.
- ✓ Look carefully at the word, is it similar to any other word they know?
- ✓ Re-visit tricky words at the end of your session and talk about what they mean. Could the child use it in a sentence?



Suggested questions	
Vocabulary 	Understanding the meaning of words
Infer 	Reading between the lines
Predict 	Making predictions
Explain 	Explain thoughts and opinions about the text
Retrieve 	Find and explain features of texts - characters, events, titles, information
Sequence 	Order key events



Thank and praise your child by picking out something they did well or something you enjoyed. This could be their expression, fluency, word reading, knowledge of sounds, using sounding out to tackle new words, perseverance, making it enjoyable to listen to. Make a note in your child's reading record of the date, book title, pages they have read, something that they did well and words that they found tricky.

Supporting reluctant readers

How you might support children who are developing reading for pleasure.

- ✓ Allow them to choose a text of interest
- ✓ Read aloud to them with passion, excitement and expression
- ✓ Paired reading - take it in turns to read sections of the text/sentences
- ✓ Echo reading - you read a sentence/section of text and then your child reads it back to you