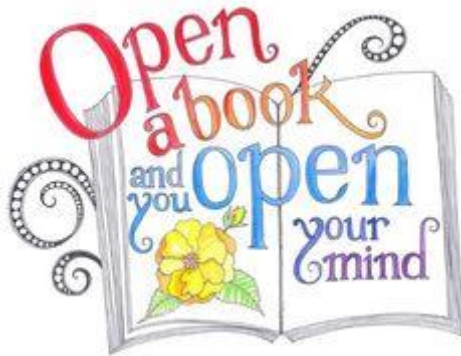




A Guide To Helping Your Child To Read



How can you help your child?

- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 10 minutes a day is much better than longer sessions once a week. It often helps if a regular time is set aside so that it becomes part of a routine.
- Find a quiet place to share books where you can be comfortable.
- Encourage your child to have a go by blending to help read any unfamiliar words, re-read when they are not fluent.
- Talk about the book. We have provided a list of suggested questions and ideas to encourage your child to talk about the book.
- Talk about the meanings of words to help to develop your child's understanding and use of language.
- Encourage your child to read a range of text such as newspapers, comics, poetry, non-fiction, etc.
- Share books with your child no matter how old they are.
- Be a role-model for your children – let them see you reading – anything and everything – newspapers, magazines, catalogues, books etc. – let them know that reading is a valuable skill.
- Telling them about a book or story you liked when you were a child. You may still be able to find a copy of it on the internet!
- Taking it in turns to read parts of the story – we do this in school lots.
- Echo read, so they copy you, hearing how to add expression.

Bookworm Reading Skills		
	EYFS - Y2	Y3 - Y6
Vocabulary	What does the word mean in this sentence? What does this word or phrase tell you about?	What do the words and suggest about the character, setting and mood? Find one word in the text which means Which word tells you that?
Infer	Why was? feeling? What do you think the author intended when they said?	How can you tell that? What impression of? do you get from these paragraphs?
Predict	What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this? What is happening? What do you think happened before?	Do you think will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?
Explain	Who is your favourite character? Why? Is there anything you would change about this story? Do you like this text? What do you like about it?	The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this. How does the author engage the reader here? Why is the text arranged in this way?
Retrieve	How many? What happened to?	How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?
Sequence Summarise	What happened after? What was the first thing that happened in the story?	Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story? In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?

Fluency and Pace in Reading

What is fluency?

Fluency is the ability to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to *read fluently* whether they are reading aloud or silently. When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately. Their reading is smooth and has expression.

Developing fluency in reading is really important. When fluent readers read, they recognize words automatically. They group words quickly to help them gain meaning from what they read. Fluent readers read aloud effortlessly and with expression. Their reading sounds natural, as if they are speaking.

Readers who have not yet developed fluency read slowly, word by word. Their understanding of what they have read is not clear. Because fluent readers do not have to concentrate on decoding the words, they can focus their attention on what the text means. They can make connections among

the ideas in the text and their background knowledge. In other words, fluent readers recognize words and comprehend at the same time and this is our aim for all children.

When reading with your child, if they make a mistake with a word, miss words out of the sentences or even pop in words that are not there, it is really important to re-read the whole sentence again so that they can see how it would sound when fluent. Modelling this with your child really helps them realise what fluent reading sounds like and helps them develop the pace too.

As fluency develops, we also work on key reading skills. This is our way of supporting children with their reading comprehension skills. All children will be working on these skills during class reading, whether it is reading as a class, in a small group, or one-to-one with an adult. Referring to these skills at home, when you listen to your child read helps them to develop these vital bookworm reading skills.

Question Openers

We have put in some questions you could use at home. Reading skills can be used on any text that a child is reading, as well as on pictures, picture books and even when watching films! When listening to a child read, pick one or two of questions about the book and just talk them through.

Please have a look at our suggested reading lists for each year group, for some examples of great books for your child to share and read.

