

Reading

Helping your child to read



‘Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body’



Reading at Home

You are a role model in your child’s life. You play a vital part in developing your child’s attitude to reading. Improve your child’s chances of becoming a keen and confident reader by demonstrating an enthusiasm towards reading. Encourage them to take an interest in print around them.

How many places might you share print?

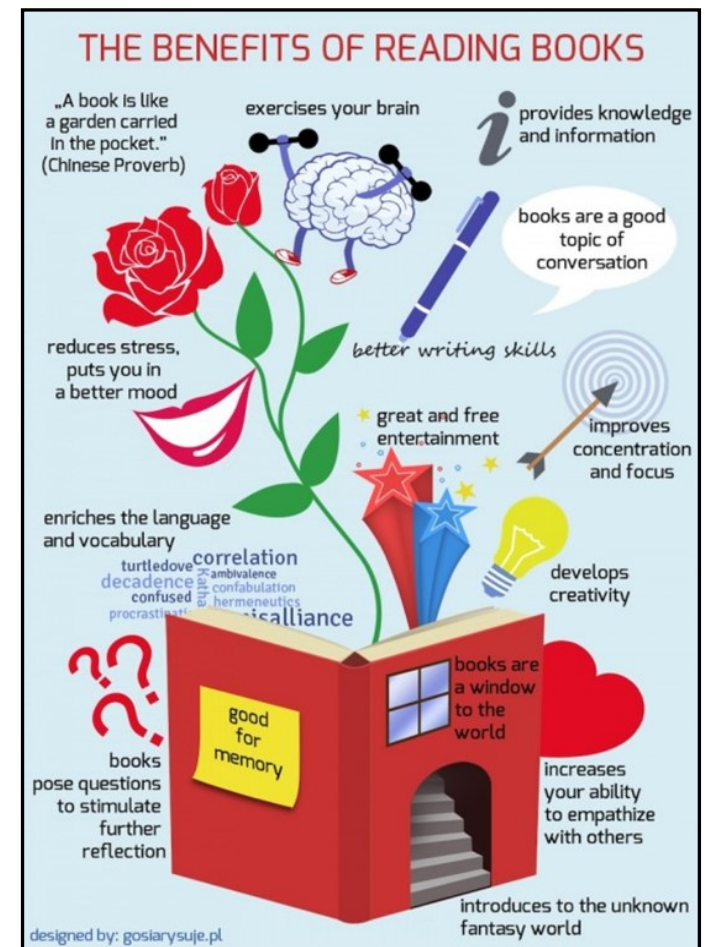
- Letters, emails, labels, packaging and instructions.
- Information boards in museums, parks and elsewhere on days out.
- Menus
- Computer games, websites and TV
- Comics & magazines, newspapers, recipe books, birthday cards and even shopping lists!

How you can support your child at home

Reading should be an enjoyable thing so find somewhere comfortable to read, be patient and praise often.

Make reading a **daily** routine from the start.

- Listen to your child read aloud daily (aiming for about 10 minutes +) and follow what they read.
- Read **to** your child too! Enjoying books together and modelling to them how an expert reads.
- Praise them! It is a great motivator when you remind your child how well they are doing and how proud you are of their reading.



If you need any help, advice, ideas or any questions, then always discuss it with your child’s teacher. You are not alone!

Fact: Children’s language skills benefit from reading with parents and caregivers beginning at about 6 months old.

Developing a love of reading can be more important for a child’s educational success than their family’s socio-economic background.
OECD (2002)

(2) Listen to your child read

The ability to read fluently and with understanding (comprehension) is the most essential skill children will learn. Children first need to 'learn to read' before they are able to 'read to learn'.

(1) Discuss the text ('Book Talk')

New book

Look at the cover. What is it about? Who is the author? What is the title? What time of book is it? What might it be about (using title & pictures to predict)?

Partially read the book

What have you liked so far? In 5 sentences, explain to me what has happened. Who is the main character? etc.

You can:

- Model reading a part of the text with expression and ask your child to copy.
- Check understanding of unfamiliar words and teach new vocabulary. Sometimes its best to do this before you start or at the end of a page/ paragraph as not to interrupt the flow of reading.
- Encourage your child to re-read words and sentences to improve accuracy, expression & understanding.
- Ask questions to check for understanding. Again, at a convenient part of the text rather than interrupting the flow.
- Praise and encourage

They can:

- Sound out unfamiliar words in chunks & using their phonetic (letter sounds) knowledge and then blend them.
- Use pictures as clues for unfamiliar words, or to help infer more information about the text.
- Read all text, including captions and titles.

(3) Question for Understanding

Ask a question or two after you have read the text. Gauge how much to ask depending on your child's mood. Use the question prompts (across the page) to help. Don't make it a chore.

(4) Discuss the text ('Book Talk')



What did you like about it?



Was there anything you disliked? Why?



Were there any parts that confused you?



Has it reminded you of anything else you've read?

	EYFS – Y2	Y3 – Y6
Vocabulary	What does the word ... mean in this sentence? What does the word or phrase tell you about ...?	Find one word in the text which means ... Which word tells you that ...? What do the words ... and ... suggest about the character, setting & mood?
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? 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 the text? What do you like about it?	The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy 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?

A.Hindle & K.Daines

FLUENCY CHECKLIST:

- ✓ **ACCURACY:** I read the words correctly
- ✓ **RATE:** I read not too fast and not too slow
- ✓ **EXPRESSION:** I read with feeling, and I didn't sound like a robot
- ✓ **PUNCTUATION:** I follow most or all of the punctuation marks as I read the text