



Key Stage 1

Reading at Home

Reading at home



What can you do to help your child with reading?

- 📖 Ensure that your child brings their reading diary and reading book to school every day. Each time an adult listens to your child read they will write a comment in the reading diary in green pen. Your child's teacher will also record a weekly guided reading session in the reading diary.
- 📖 Talk to your child about their reading targets. These can be found in the front of the reading diary and will be signed off by your child's class teacher whenever when progress towards these targets is shown.
- 📖 Use the reading diary to record reading experiences and to communicate with your child's teacher. Try to listen to your child read at least four times a week.
- 📖 Join your local library and take your child to choose their own books.
- 📖 Help your child to develop a sense of care and responsibility for books.
- 📖 Check that the text is suitable. Remember that reading is not just about decoding but also about fluency, expression and understanding.
- 📖 Try to ensure your child explores a range of different books: for example non-fiction, poetry, comic books and traditional tales.



1. Establishing a reading routine

- ★ Try and read together as often as possible.
- ★ Choose a time when your child is not too tired.
- ★ Sit with your child and interact during the reading session.
- ★ Read in a quiet environment with no music or television distractions.



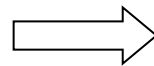
2. Choosing a text to read

- ★ Read a school book.
- ★ Choose a favourite book to read together.
- ★ Read magazines or comics about hobbies or interests.
- ★ There are lots of opportunities to read with your child outside the house too. For example: road signs, labels in shops or museum displays.



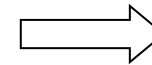
3. Before you start reading

- ★ Read the title, author and information on the back together.
- ★ Look at the front cover and discuss what the book may be about.
- ★ Recap what the book has been about so far if you are in the middle of a book or story.



4. When you are listening to your child reading.

- ★ Offer regular praise and encouragement.
- ★ Try not to say a word is 'wrong'. Encourage your child to think whether it makes sense or sounds right instead.
- ★ Remind your child to use their phonics to help them to decode words.



5. Stuck on a word?

- ★ Remind your child to use their knowledge of the letter sounds rather than making a guess.
- ★ Sound out the word carefully together. Point out any new phonemes your child hasn't yet learnt.
- ★ Help your child to blend the sounds together. You may need to model this first.



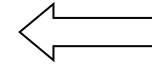
6. After reading

- ★ Discuss the text and your child's attitude towards it. Did you enjoy it? Did you have a favourite part or character? Was the story happy, sad or scary? Why?
- ★ Re-read difficult words and discuss the meaning of new vocabulary.
- ★ Praise your child and reward achievements.



7. Reading Diaries

- ★ These are for communication between parents/carers and teachers.
- ★ Record each reading session in the book.
- ★ Write down any words or pages your child enjoyed or found challenging.
- ★ Note any sounds your child found challenging.



8. Useful Ideas

- ★ Share the reading of a book; child one page, adult the next page.
- ★ Encourage older siblings to listen to a younger child read.
- ★ Read to your child regularly, even fluent readers benefit from this. It helps children to understand and enjoy a wider range of literature.
- ★ Read interactive texts online.

