

Reading with your child - Some ideas to help!

Keep the reading session short and sweet. 15-20 minutes is fine.



Find a time when you child is not too tired.

Remember that understanding the story is more important than reading every word correctly; comprehension is about understanding what has been read.

Briefly warm up before you start. Look at the cover and ask your child about the pictures and what the book might be about. Look on the back and read the blurb.

If it is clear that your child is finding the book hard, then switch to taking turns to read a page each - to keep the reading flowing.

If your child wants to read the same book again, then encourage them. Repetition builds confidence and this allows them to then think of other areas of reading such as reading with an interesting voice, using expression.

Lots of words cannot be 'sounded out'. If your child cannot 'sound out' a word, encourage them to try other ways of working out the word such as:

- Read the rest of the sentence with the word in and then go back to guess the word.
- Question your child - What do you think the word is? Can you make a sensible guess? Does it sound right?

Just whisper the word to avoid struggling - reading should be enjoyable first and foremost!

It is good to pick out 3 or 4 words from the book beforehand and write them on paper for your child to read and say aloud in a sentence. When they come to read them in the book they will recognise them and read them more quickly. This will boost their confidence!

Keep it regular. In year 3 children need to read every night for a short amount of time. Just 15 minutes will make such a difference to your child's learning.

Above all always use plenty of praise and encouragement. Play games, use voices for characters and overall make it FUN!

Model the reading by reading aloud yourself and taking it in turns. This means your child can develop both speaking and listening skills.

Finally - make time to read to your child. Children learn a great deal from listening to others read and it also builds their love of books very naturally.



Reading can come in all shapes and sizes. Reading is not just limited to story books. Encourage children to read as many different things as possible. These could include: Newspapers, sports results, adverts, instructions, recipes, letters, online articles, magazines, comics and the list goes on!



- Below are the Expected Reading Standards for year 3

- Show an awareness of punctuation & its effect on reading

- Can self-correct as necessary



- Read independently & with increasing fluency longer & less familiar texts

- Reading is generally well paced, sometimes with appropriate intonation & expression, & shows awareness of meaning & effect

- Make predictions based on prior knowledge & clues in the text, starting to identify possible consequences & suggesting which is most likely and why

- Identify how different texts (fiction & non-fiction) are organised, including reference texts, plays & poetry, on paper & on screen

- Explain organisational features of texts, including alphabetical order, layout, diagrams, captions, headings, hyperlinks & bullet points

- Begin to explain & evaluate organisational features of texts

- Begin to identify & make notes of some main points in a simple text for an identified purpose

- Relate the text to others e.g. by genre, by the same author, in a series, & begin to comment on similarities & differences

- Comment on specific words and expressions choices made by an author, & identify the impact of the words selected

- Explain reactions to texts, commenting on important aspects

- Begin to show awareness of, & some familiarity with, types of poems & stories from different cultures & times



Recommended Reading Books for Year 3

These websites have useful lists of books that give age appropriate lists.



Here are a few suggestions of authors and some of their best stories:

Roald Dahl
The BFG
The Twits
Esio Trot

Hannah Gold
The Last Bear
The Lost Whale


Jeff Brown
Flat Stanley

Dick King-Smith
The Sheep Pig

Jeff Kinney
Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Dav Pilkey
The Dog Man series

Jeremy Strong
The Hundred Mile and Hour Dog



**Oxford
Reading
Buddy**

Your child has login details for the website Oxford Reading Buddy. It allows them to read a wide variety of books, and then to answer questions that test their understanding.

Reading in Year 3



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