

Questions to ask when reading with your child.

Before reading the book:

- What do you think this story is about?
- What might happen in the story?
- What genre will this story be? E.g. fantasy, comedy, horror.
- What do we call the writing on the back or the book? (Blurb) or what does the Blurb tell us?

During the reading of the book:

- What has happened so far?
Is it what you have expected to happen?
- What might happen next?
- How do you think the story might end?
- Who is your favourite character? Why?
- Who is the character you like least? Why?
- Find 2 sentences, which describe the setting,
- Is the plot fast or slow moving? Find some evidence in the text, which supports your view.

At the end of the book:

- Which part of the story is your favourite/least favourite?
Why?
- Would you change any part of the story? How?
- Would you like to read another book by this author? Why?
- Does your opinion of this character change during the story?
How? Why?
- Find two things the author wrote about this character that made him/her likeable or unlikeable?



Supporting your child with Reading

Key stage 2



Information for parents

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/primary_support
www.primarytimes.net > Parent Times > Education
www.mumsnet.com/books/teach-your-child-to-read

Key Reading Skills

Decoding: Strategies used by children to make sense of the words on the page. Discuss strategies that your child uses to help decode new or unfamiliar words.

Retrieval and Recall: Locating important information, retelling and describing events in texts.

Inference: Reading between the lines. Encourage your child to make inferences based on clues in the text and their understanding of the context of the book. This is an important skill that children need to develop and use.

Structure and organisation: Your child needs to read a variety of text types and begin to comment on the features of all text types. Discussing the presentation of the text, e.g. the use of subtitles to assist the reading of non-fiction, and the author's reason for organising the text in this way, will support your child's development.

Language: Discuss the language choices that the author has made and the effect that it has on the reader. Share alternative choices.

Purpose and viewpoint: Ask your child questions Who is the narrator of this story? Authors write for a purpose and children need to understand this and recognise that this will impact on the way the text is written. Use newspaper articles and advertisements to help understand this skill.

Making links: as adults we constantly make links between ideas and experiences. This skill involve readers being able to connect the book they are reading with real life experiences; with other books read , films watched: and in the context in which they are written.

How can you help your child at home with their reading?

This leaflet is designed to help you to develop key reading skills with your child at home.



One of the best ways to develop a love of books is to continue to share books with your child. Regularly listening to them read, sometimes reading to or with them, but also discussing books read in increasing depth all supports confidence and skills.

- Spend about 15 minutes with your child a night reading.
- Encourage them to read a variety of genres and discuss what they are reading with them.
- Pick out a few questions from the back of this leaflet to ask your child whilst reading.
- Encourage your child to skim read to get the gist of the book.
- Children can change their books daily at school if they need to.
- Book bags should be in school each day.