

Hazel Leys Academy

Reading to your child and hearing your child read to you is the perfect time to find out more about the world, finding out about things that interest you and also visiting places that exist in the imagination of the author. We know that parents spending time talking to children about what they have read can improve vocabulary, understanding and knowledge. Getting started as a reader takes practice, time and lots of encouragement. This leaflet will give you some useful ideas on how to help your child develop their reading skills.

Reading With Your Child in Key Stage 1

10 Tips On Hearing Your Child Read



- **Choose a quiet time**
- **Make reading enjoyable**
- **Maintain the flow**
If your child mispronounces a word, do not interrupt immediately. Allow the child the opportunity to self-correct.
- **Be positive**
Give lots of praise and encouragement
- **Encourage regular practice**
Little and often is best, 10 minutes a day is recommended for Key Stage 1 children.
- **Success is the key**
Until your child is a competent reader it is better to keep to easier books. Struggling with many unknown words is pointless. Flow is lost, text cannot be understood and children become reluctant readers.
- **Visit the library.**
- **Variety is important.**
Children need to experience a variety of reading materials eg: picture books, hard back books, comics, poetry, magazines, information books etc.
- **Communicate**
Communicate with your child's teacher through the reading record.
- **Talk about books**
There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Being able to understand what is being read is **extremely** important. Ideas to help with this can be found below.

Book Talk

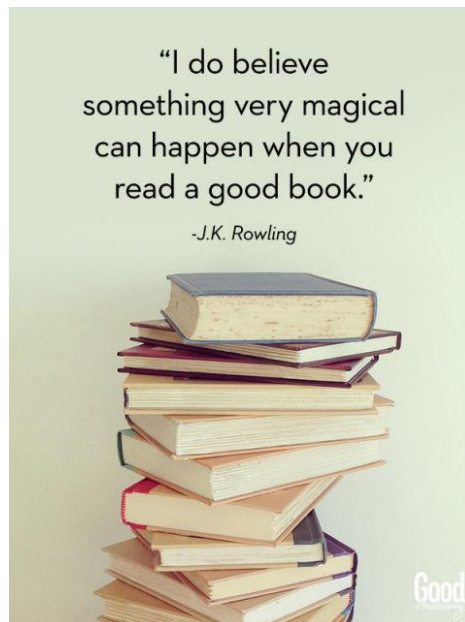
- Look at the cover, discuss the title.
- Who is the author, the illustrator?
- Is there 'blurb' on the back cover?
What does it tell us about the book?

Check comprehension of the text by asking questions. Choose two or three from the list below.

- Can you tell me what happened at the beginning/ middle/ end of the story?
- Who is the most important character in the book? What are they like? Do you like that character? Why?
- Where is the story set? Is it like anywhere you have ever been? Can you find any words in the text which describe this place?
- At intervals through the book ask what has happened so far? What might happen next?
- At the end of the book ask if they enjoyed the book. Can they find some interesting words in the book?
- Did the story end as expected? How else could it have ended?

Looking at the language in the text.

- Can you find a question mark/ exclamation mark/speech marks?
- Can you find 3 verbs/ nouns/ compound words/ joining words?



Reading With Your Child in Key Stage 2



Once children have developed the basic skills of reading, there can be a risk that their motivation and enthusiasm begins to lessen. This is a vital sign in children's reading development and the point at which parents can offer invaluable support. Taking the time to talk to your children about the books they choose and listening to them reading aloud regularly can make all the difference. Children need to understand why we read. They need to experience the range of feelings that a book can create or the power that can be gained from accessing information. Reading must not only be confined to stories. Many children love reading comics, magazines, newspapers, information books and poetry. All of these reading activities should be encouraged. Asking questions that go beyond the literal meaning of the book will help your child to think more deeply about what they are reading. Children in Key Stage 2 will all be at very different stages of development, but even for the most fluent readers there is a need for parental support.

Helping Your Child With Reading

The following points are to support you when reading at home with your child. Regular, daily reading is the key to reading success. Two or three of these sessions could be your child reading silently to him/herself followed by a discussion about the book. The other days could be an opportunity for your child to read aloud. Please sign your child's reading record each time they have read recording the pages covered. The amount of time children spend reading will vary. Be encouraging and guided by your child's interest. These guidelines may help you develop reading further.

- Make sure you are relaxed and comfortable during the reading session.
- Encourage your child to read with expression.

- Your child should be able to read approximately 9 out of every 10 words in the book, less than this and the book may be too difficult.
- Discuss the meaning of difficult or unusual words.
- Ask questions about the characters, the plot, the ending of the book and whether your child enjoyed it. If your child is not enjoying a story, stop reading it and ask them to change the book.
- Encourage talk about favourite authors and illustrators, giving reasons for their choices.
- Try and make sure that your child reads a range of different books.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement.
- Keep up a regular dialogue with your child's teacher through the home/school reading book.