



Year 5/6

Reading More Independently Session
February 2020

The facts about reading...

What the research shows...

- Levels of **daily reading decreased** for a second consecutive year, falling from 32% in 2016 to 30.8% in 2017/18
- Children and young people's reading engagement has **steadily fallen** over the past four years
- Children and young people who enjoy reading are **five times more** likely to read above the level expected for their age compared with their peers who don't enjoy reading (17.0% vs 3.5%)
- Children and young people who read daily are **four times more likely** to read above the level expected for their age compared with their peers who don't read daily (22.3% vs 5.7%)



Reading...

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

In fact, **reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.**

"Reading for pleasure is the single biggest factor in success later in life, outside of an education. Study after study has shown that those children who read for pleasure are the ones who are most likely to fulfil their ambitions. If your child reads, they will succeed – it's that simple."

Bali Rai



How to support your child's reading...

Reading, being read to, and sharing books in the home helps to build a child's vocabulary and understanding of the world.

Reading with your child, or encouraging your child to read independently for just ten minutes each day can make all the difference.

Strike a balance between independent reading and reading with you. Is ok to simply read for pleasure!



Take breaks while reading...

Your child doesn't have to read an entire book in one go! Any time spent sharing or talking about a book is beneficial, even if it's just a couple of minutes at a time. If they have to close the book early because they've arrived at their bus stop, it's time for tea, or they're just losing interest, that's okay. Reading can take a lot of mental energy and taking breaks gives children a chance to slowly build the mental stamina they need, so that soon they will be able to read for longer stretches of time.



Build reading into your child's daily routine...

Find a regular time for reading in your child's day, so that they can begin to expect it as part of their routine. This can be any time of day. Some children enjoy reading before bed, but others can just be too exhausted at night. It might be better for some children to read just after dinner, or in the morning before going to school, when they have more energy. You can encourage your child to track their reading using a weekly reading chart. This will help them celebrate their progress.



Encourage your child to follow their interests...

Let your children choose the books they read.

It is ok for children to re-read books that they enjoy.

It is also ok to read several books by the same author as long as they vary their reading material over time.

Following their interests is also the best way to keep them engaged and make reading fun, which will make them more likely to want to read more widely going forward.

It doesn't always have to be books! Magazines are great too.



Use technology together...

Feel free, at times, to use your mobile phones, tablets, computers, laptops and other devices to engage your child in reading and activities that can help them build their vocabulary. This can include a multitude of activities, such as:

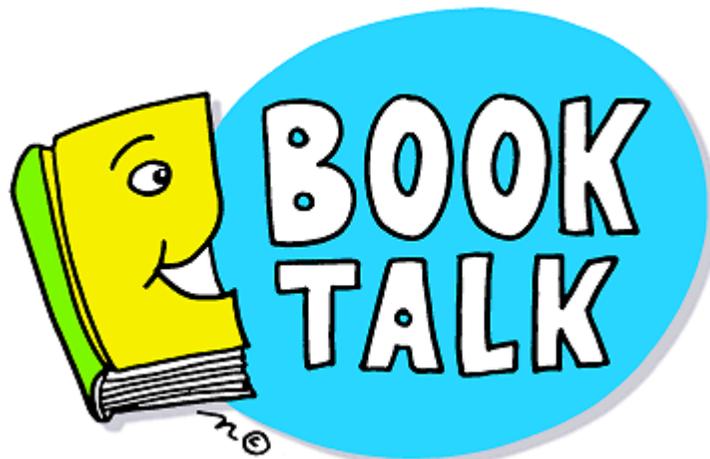
- Telling a story using pictures on your phone.
- Video calling friends and relatives to engage children in conversation
- Using YouTube to find the lyrics songs.
- Using apps to read interactive books or listen to audiobooks.



Have a chat...

Let your child pick the topic they want to talk about, listen to them, ask questions and share your ideas. You can do this anywhere and at any time, and you'll learn a lot about your child's interests!

Find opportunities to make links between what they are reading and real life experiences.



Visit the library for free books...

Libraries are fantastic places for children to explore. They're child-friendly, welcoming and free to join. Many libraries will have a number of great things available for you and your child to borrow, including books, audiobooks, DVDs and magazines. Librarians can help you find what you are looking for or recommend something your child might like. It's also useful to know that most libraries won't charge for overdue children's books, or for wear and tear!



Make sure that they see you read...

Find opportunities during family time to read for pleasure yourself. Be a role model as a reader.

Instead of watching TV, read a book or newspaper (scrolling through Facebook or Twitter is not the same!)



Reading...

- <https://readtheory.org>
- Online reading activities for all levels which improves your reading ability using a fun, interactive, educational tool at home.
- All you need to do is have your child sign up using the above link.
- Today, you will be given the class code to use when signing up. This will allow us to track your child's progress.
- We will set and monitor work weekly.

Welcome to ReadTheory!
Let's get started!

Signup as a...



Student



Teacher



Parent



Reading VIPERS

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary

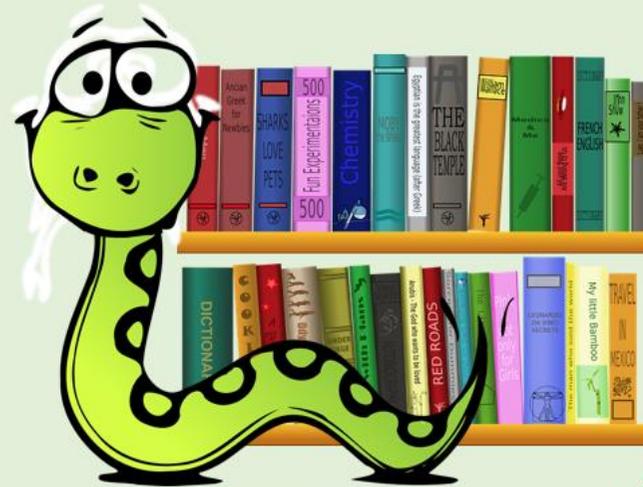
Infer

Predict

Explain

Retrieve

Sequence or Summarise



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