

Reading at Home

Reading is one of the most important skills your child will learn at school and supporting at home will make a big difference to your child's education. We know that children who can read well go on to be successful at secondary school and beyond. We have collated this information leaflet to support you. Here are some ways that you can support your child at home. Here at St Mary's we love reading and we want to spread that joy with the children too!

Supporting your child with reading

Reading Tips

Parents and other adults can play an essential role in giving children a love of reading and an interest in books. This will give them a strong foundation that we can build upon in other subjects too. This will set them up for a lifetime of pleasure from reading.

It is important to remember, though, that it is not a race! For some children, learning to read will seem to happen easily and quickly. For others more time and support will be needed. Your child will have learnt to read by using phonics. This is very important but here are some other ways to support. Start by asking your child where their reading book from school is! If they don't have one speak to your child's class teacher.

Try not to rush through the books. In addition to using phonics to sound words out, reading a book a few times over a few days or a week will help your child to increase their sight vocabulary, that means remembering words by sight without having to sound them out.



Talking about Reading.

Talking through a book together can be just as important as listening to your child read.

Here are a few things for you to consider:

Before reading try discussing:

The cover including: the author, illustrator, title, and the cover picture.

Ask the children to predict: What do you think the book will be about? What do you think will happen in the story?

Whilst you are reading try discussing:

What has happened so far? Why do you think that happened?

What do you think will happen next?

When you have finished reading with your child, ask them what they thought:

Was it a good ending?

Which part did you like best?

Why?

**Talk about the book when you are reading to your child,
when they are reading to you,
or even when your child is more able and reading independently.**

Reading Prompts and Questions

Ask them to finish off these sentences:

I think that in the end...

I think that... will happen.

My ending would be...

The problem was...

The characters are...

The main character is...

My favourite character is...because...

The best bit was...

In the middle of the story...

The story setting is...

At the end...



Your child could answer questions about the main characters in the story and talk about what happened.

Do you think...?

Why do you think...?

What would you do if...?

Your child could try to relate the events of the stories to themselves, for example if in the story a child gets caught out in the rain without a coat on, you could ask your child:

How would you feel if YOU got caught in the rain without your coat on?

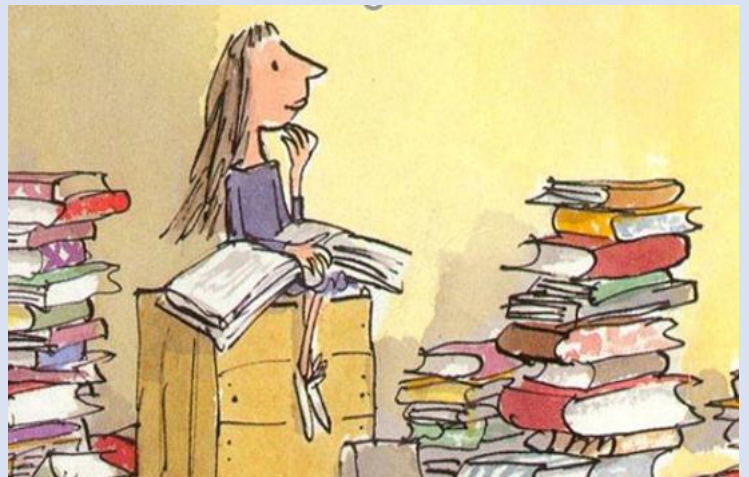
How would you feel if you went in a time machine and travelled back to Egyptian times?

Warwickshire Library Service

[Libraries - Warwickshire County Council](#)

You are able to join the library if you are not a member. Once you are a member you can have free access to book borrowing and also to online e-books and audiobooks. Libraries are fantastic - you just need to go along and make sure that you sign up as a member. These services are for everyone not just children!


You can download the Borrow Box app or Libby app on your device and enter your library card number and pin if you would like to access e-books, audiobooks or magazines. They are issued to users for a fixed period of time but there may be a wait if the title you want is on loan.



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Many people don't realise that you don't need a kindle to read books on Kindle! You can download the kindle app on any device and you can even download a kindle app onto most computers too. Click on the link above. You can often get free books via the online store as well as offers on books for 99p. You will need an amazon account and would need to supervise your child's use of this.

<p>1. Choose a quiet time Set aside a quiet time with no distractions. Ten to fifteen minutes is usually long enough. It could be part of your bedtime routine.</p>	<p>2. Make reading enjoyable Make reading an enjoyable experience. Sit with your child. Try not to pressurise if he or she is reluctant. If your child loses interest then do something else.</p>	<p>3. Maintain the flow If your child mispronounces a word do not interrupt immediately. Instead allow opportunity for self-correction. It is better to tell a child some unknown words to maintain the flow rather than insisting on trying to build them all up from the sounds of the letters. When 'sounding out' words, use the letter sounds that they have learnt in phonics rather than 'alphabet names'.</p>
<p>4. Be positive If your child says something nearly right to start with that is fine. Don't say 'No. That's wrong,' but, 'Let's read it together' and point to the words as you say them. Boost your child's confidence with praise for even the smallest achievement</p>	<p>Top tips for reading with your child</p> 	<p>5. Success is the key Parents anxious for a child to progress can mistakenly give a child a book that is too difficult. This can have the opposite effect to the one they are wanting. Until your child has built up his or her confidence, it is better to keep to easier books. Struggling with a book with many unknown words is pointless. Flow is lost, text cannot be understood and children can easily become reluctant readers.</p>
<p>7. Regular practice Try to read with your child whenever you can. 'Little and often' is best.</p>	<p>9. Talk about the books There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. Just as important is being able to understand what has been read. Always talk to your child about the book; about the pictures, the characters, how they think the story will end, their favourite part. You will then be able to see how well they have understood and you will help them to develop good comprehension skills.</p>	<p>ENJOY!</p> <p>Reading should be enjoyable! Don't push too hard and remember reading to your child is just as important as your child reading to you.</p>

If you have any worries or concerns about reading,

or would like some more advice,

please contact your child's class teacher and we will be happy to help.