

Why is reading important?

Good readers make good learners. Children who enjoy reading, and who think of themselves as readers, are more likely to do well at school.

When we talk about reading, we're talking about more than story books. As your child moves up through primary school, he or she will be learning how to read and understand instructions, letters, magazines, information books and even websites. By Year 3, children are not just learning how to make sense of the words on the page, they are learning how to make sense of the ideas they are reading about. Through reading, they are beginning to discover the world around them.

If children are confident readers, they will not only do well in reading and writing tasks, they will be able to understand what is being taught in every other subject: science, history, geography and even maths.

- The Book Trust -

Useful websites

The Book Trust—www.booktrust.org.uk

The National Literacy Trust—www.wordsforlife.org.uk

Love reading for schools—<https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk/viewschool/8726/favourite>

Password: Stokebishop



Reading with your child

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!

How can I help?

- Set aside 10 to 15 minutes every day to read, away from distractions.
- Spend a few minutes looking at the title, front cover and blurb and talking about what the book might be about.
- If your child gets stuck on a word, encourage them to work it out by
 - Using any picture clues and first letter.
 - Sounding out the letter sounds (remember, not all words can be sounded out e.g. was come because)
 - Breaking words into syllables e.g. in/side, ad/ven/ture
 - What would make sense in the sentence.
- Praise your child when they work out a new word or correct a mistake.
- When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word get them to re-read the sentence so they don't lose the meaning of what is being read.
- To begin with children need to point to the words as they read. As they progress they need to take their finger away to read more fluently.
- Allow your child to re-read favourite books, re-reading helps children read more quickly and accurately.
- Take turns reading aloud, model a good story voice!

- If English is not the language your family speaks at home, enjoy sharing books written in your home language, as well.
- Your child has a 'Monkey book' from school. Please write in it regularly with positive comments and any concerns.
- Ask your child a question or two to check their understanding of the text e.g.
 - What was your favourite part?
 - What might happen next?
 - What was the most exciting part?
 - What character would you like to be and why?
 - What is happening here?
 - How do you think this character feels?
 - What does this word mean?
 - Why has the author used these words?
 - How do you feel about this character?

Make it fun and enjoyable

Make reading fun and enjoyable. If your child is reluctant, try and find something they are interested in. As well as practising their school reading book, borrow books from the library or buy from charity shops. They can read comics, recipes, games instructions, newspapers.....

