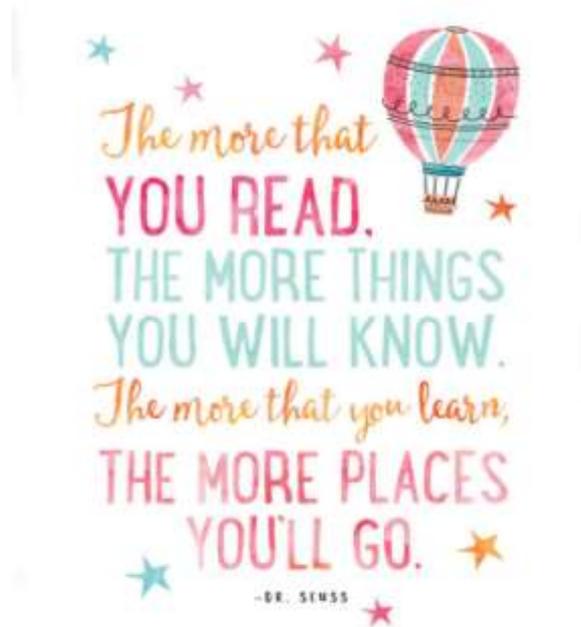


# Supporting Reading At Home



*'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)

## Supporting Reading At Home

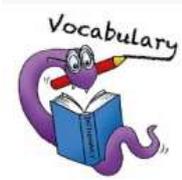
Children's understanding of what they have read is the key to success and enjoyment of reading. It allows children to challenge ideas, collect a wider range of vocabulary and become creative writers as they use the language they have acquired to improve their writing. Encouraging and sharing a love of reading at home is one of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning. Please read, read and read some more. Please ask staff in school if you would like any recommendations or need any further support. Our staff at The Ellis CE Primary have a wealth of experience and are always happy to help.

### **Top Tips:**

-  Find a comfortable place where you and your child can share a book.
-  Talk about the book before reading it – take a look at the front cover and the pictures and ask your child to think about what the book may be about.
-  Read yourself! Let your children see you as a reader, children will see that reading is a valuable skill.
-  Listen to your child read for around 10 minutes as often as possible – everyday if you can but aim for at least three times per week.
-  Ask lots of questions to check your child's understanding (see the questions below).
-  Talk about the book at the end of your session. Ask what did you enjoy? Can you tell me your favourite part?
-  Give your child plenty of praise, make reading a positive experience. If your child is struggling on a particular word you could ask them to look at the sentence and guess what the word might be.
-  Take it in turns to each read a part of the story.

Below are grouped questions under different themes (in school we call these our Reading VIPERS) that you may ask your child after they have read. Here are some basic question starters that will give you a starting point for the type of questions to ask your child about the book they are reading.

## Questions:



What does (word/phrase) mean?

Which words has the author used to make the writing sound more formal/informal?

Why has the author used ... ?

What has the author used in the text to make the characters sound funny/sad/angry?

Think of another word you can use here. What different effect would your word have?

Find some adjectives that help you picture the scene/character in your mind.

What does the word make you think of?



If you were going to interview/ask a character a question-who would you ask and what would your question be? What do you think will happen because of .....?

Through whose eyes is the story told?

Why do you think ... feels...?

If this was you, what would you do next?

How have the characters changed during the story?

How do you know that...?

What does the main character feel at this point in the story?

How do you know this-can you pick out a sentence?



Look at the front cover and predict what the story might be about.

Predict what you think is going to happen next. What makes you think this?



What is the writer's purpose and viewpoint of writing the story?

Can you think of another story that has a similar theme?

(good/evil/weak/strong)

Why does the author choose this setting?

What makes this a GOOD story?

What effect do you think the story has on the reader

? Could the story be better? What would you suggest?

What impression does the author want to give of this character? Why?

What question would you like to ask the writer of the story?

Would you solve the problem in the story in a different way?

Do you think.....was right to .....?

Does the article/story try to get you to care about anything?

What can you tell about what the author thinks?



Where does the story take place?

When did the story take place?

Can you describe the character's appearance?

Where do the characters live?

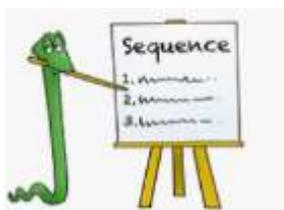
Who are the main characters?

What happened in the story?

Can you describe the problem in the story?

Can you identify words that describe the setting or character?

What happened after....? Can you tell me why....?



Which of these three things happened first?

Can you put these events in the order they happened?  
If you could give this book a title, what would it be?

### **Helpful websites:**

Ruth Miskin (Phonics) <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/>

Booktrust [www.booktrust.org.uk](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)

A Story for Bedtime [www.astoryforbedtime.com](http://www.astoryforbedtime.com)

Silly Books [www.sillybooks.net](http://www.sillybooks.net)

Oxford Owl [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

Read Together [www.readtogether.co.uk](http://www.readtogether.co.uk)

Child Literacy Centre [www.childliteracy.com](http://www.childliteracy.com)

Help Them Read [www.helpthemread.co.uk](http://www.helpthemread.co.uk)

### **Finding and choosing books:**

Centre for Literacy in Primary Education:

<https://clpe.org.uk/library/booklists>

BookTrust: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/booklists/>

Books for Topics: <https://www.booksfortopics.com/printable-booklists>

Reading Matters: <http://readingmatters.org.uk/>