



Even when your child becomes an independent reader, sharing bedtime stories will enable your child to enjoy literature, extend their vocabulary and comprehension of stories. It is also an enjoyable experience for both parent and child alike. Often these shared stories are memories that children carry with them for life. The more stories and books your child hears, the more they will want to read.

Helping your child to practise reading helps them make more progress in school. Children love their parents / carers to take an interest in what they are doing and your help can make a BIG difference!

Please remember your teachers are also available to give advice.

Happy reading!



How can I help my child with reading at home? (KS2)

Information for parents



West Pennard
CE Primary School



Reading opens the door to learning and to the world. It underpins everything we do and is essential to everyday life. In order to survive, we need to be able to read instructions, signs, and safety information as well as reading for pleasure.

In order for children to become able and independent readers they need to have:

Fluency—children can read at a comfortable speed with appropriate expression.

Accuracy—they can 'decode' words without interrupting the flow.

Understanding—they can follow the content of what they read, (this is the key to progression in reading!)

Enjoyment and confidence - reading because it is a useful and pleasurable thing to do (become lifelong readers).

Higher order skills:

Once children have a good knowledge of phonics and word building we move onto develop higher order reading skills. These are:

Inference - something that is not explicit in the text but is inferred.

Deduction - work out something from clues from the text.

Authorial techniques and intent - what the author does to get his /her intended message across.

Skimming and scanning - to read quickly to get an overview of the story or to look for particular points in the text.

Range of reading:

As children get older they are expected to read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction material. **Fiction** may include: adventure, fantasy, science fiction, mystery, horror, myths and legends. **Non-fiction** may include: newspapers, magazines, diaries, journals, biographies and autobiographies, letters, leaflets, historical accounts, signs and posters.



How to help your child when reading at home:

- Find a quiet place away from distractions.
- Spend a few minutes discussing the blurb and front cover before you open the book—what do you think this book might be about?
- Help and support your child if they get stuck on a word. DO NOT simply tell them the words, encourage them to work it out by:
 - ⇒ sounding out the phonemes (units of sound)
 - ⇒ Using pictures as clues
 - ⇒ Using the context of the sentences to work out
 - ⇒ What would sensibly fit?
 - ⇒ Re-reading to check for meaning
- Ask your child questions to check their understanding of the text e.g. What was your favourite part? How did you feel about the main character? Which words show you that the character is happy? What might happen next?
- We know that some children only like to read familiar genres, but please do try and encourage them to read a book they would not normally choose, or could you read it to them? Try taking turns on reading pages.
- Finally, remember to use lots of praise for having a go and doing well!