

Reading at home

How often?

We aim for:

KS1 10-15 minutes - four times a week

KS2 15-20 minutes - four times a week

Reading should be a pleasurable experience for children and it is vital that they have time to talk about the book as well as read it.

What needs recording?

KS1 pupils have a reading diary that needs completing with the date, pages read and a comment (usually praise and a statement of what was done) by the adult.

KS2 pupils have a Reading Journal, they record the pages read and ask an adult to sign once a week to show they have read at home.

Start with the title, look at the front and back cover and briefly talk about what could be inside.

It is still important for KS2 children to do this.

Reading support

How do we support children in reading?

Predict events from the cover, predict what may happen on the next page and give reasons why they think this.

Pause to work out words and discuss what they are reading –ask questions and share ideas.

Praise them for trying whether they are right or wrong.

Re-read the sentence – what could it be? Use the context.

Don't let a reader struggle –Ask what word would fit? Can you sound it out? What other clues are there (pictures, last sentences, similar words)? Give the word to them.

Reading in Key Stage 1

Before reading the book...

Can you find the title?

What do you think the story will be about?

What might happen?

What is the writing on the back? What does it tell us?

Who wrote the book?

During reading the book...

What has happened so far?

What do you think will happen next?

What sort of character is...?

Is he/she friendly/mean/caring?

After reading the book...

Did you like the book?

What was your favourite part?

What was the most interesting part of this book?

What sort of character was?

What happened in the story?

Reading Diaries

When you read with your child, you should be writing in their reading diary to evidence this.

Reading in Key Stage 2

Reading

Children should be introduced to texts according to their reading age. They should also be introduced to texts that contain a depth of hidden meaning and vivid vocabulary.

Writing

In order for children to gain imagination, creativity along with an established voice in reading and writing, they need to experience this from the variety of books they are reading.

Spelling

Reading regularly is an effective way of improving children's spelling, since they are finding and seeing words within the text.

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is a computer-based program that schools may use to monitor reading practice and progress. It helps teachers guide children to books that are on children's individual reading levels depending on their ZPD score. This score is generated from a reading assessment that takes place in school. At the end of reading a book, children take short quiz to check if they've understood it.

General fiction questions

Plot

Which events were most exciting?

Why do you think the author chose this order of events?

Do you think the way the author described the plot made it exciting?

How is the story resolved?

Setting

Where did the story take place?

Was this setting familiar or unfamiliar to you?

Did you get a clear picture of where it was set?

Does the setting effect the character's behaviour?

Character

Which character did you find most interesting?

Did you dislike any characters? Why?

Did your opinion of the characters change throughout the book? Why?

How did you learn about the characters?

Did the characters remind you of

Point of view

Who is telling the story?

How do you know who is telling it?

Is it in first person or third person?

When reading it, did you feel part of the story or like an observer?

How do you think the other characters might view the events in the story?

Subject and theme

Can you summarise the story?

Does this story have a message?

Does this story remind you of a different story you have read?

General non-fiction questions

Making connections

What do you already know about this?

Does this remind you of any other texts?

What useful information does this book provide?

Were you interested in this book?

Content

Why is this topic important?

What was your favourite part of the book?

What did you learn about from reading this book?

What do you want to learn more about?

Text structure

How does the author present the information?

What different features can you spot?

How is the information arranged in the book?

Did the layout of the book make it easier for you to read and understand? Why?

Text features

What does the title tell you about the book?

How did the subheadings to each section help you?

What extra information did you get from captions and labels?

Did these features make it easy to follow?

Authenticity and accuracy

Do you think this information is up to date?

Are the photographs authentic? Do they look real?

Is there any important information missing?